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SNELL
ON
BATTALION DRILL

50.1713.

49.1615.



BATTALION DRILL.

COMPANY AND BATTALION DRILL,

EXPLAINED IN DETAIL, ACCORDING TO

THE SYSTEM OF THE FIELD EXERCISE AND EVOLUTIONS
OF THE ARMY;

TOGETHER WITH

Guard Mounting and Relief of Sentries.

BY

CAPTAIN WILLIAM HENRY SNELL,

Adjutant of the Honorable Artillery Company; and formerly of the Bombay Army.

IN TWO PARTS.

Part II.—BATTALION DRILL.

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1850.



CONTENTS.

| | PAGE |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Dedication | ix |
| Preface | xi |
| Proof of the Battalion | 1 |
| Formation of the Battalion | 3 |

| SECTION | | PAGE |
|--|--|------|
| 1. When the Battalion takes Open Order | | 6 |
| 2. When the Battalion resumes Close Order | | 9 |
| 3. Forming Open Column, Right (or Left) in Front | | 10 |
| 4. Marching past in Slow and Quick Time | | 13 |
| 5. The Column wheels into Line | | 19 |
| 6. Manual and Platoon | | 22 |
| 7. The Line advances | | 25 |
| 2. The Line retires | | 27 |
| 8. The Charge | | 29 |
| 9. Dressing the Line after the Charge | | 30 |
| 10. The Line passes to the Front, from the Right or Left of Companies, in File, or Sections of Threes | | 31 |
| 2. Passing in like manner to the Rear | | 34 |
| 3. If attacked by Cavalry while passing to the Front or Rear | | 35 |
| 4. Passing through a Battalion which advances to relieve | | 37 |
| 5. Passing through a Battalion which does not ad- vance | | 38 |
| 11. The Battalion advances by Wings | | 39 |
| 2. The Battalion retires by Wings | | 41 |

| SECTION | PAGE |
|---|------|
| 12. Advancing in Open Column from a Flank | 42 |
| 2. Re-forming Line | 44 |
| 3. Advancing in Double Column of Sub-divisions from the Centre | 47 |
| 4. Re-forming Line to the Front | 50 |
| 5. Forming Line to a Flank | 52 |
| 13. Retiring in Open Column, from one Flank in Rear of the other | 55 |
| 2. Retiring from both Flanks, in Rear of the Centre | 57 |
| 14. Marching off from Line in Column of Divisions, to a Flank | 61 |
| 15. The Battalion in Line forms Square on a Central Company | 63 |
| 2. On a Flank Company, and to a Flank | 64 |
| 3. The Square prepares for Cavalry | 65 |
| 4. The Square re-forms Column | 67 |
| 5. Square is formed from Line, on the two Centre Sub-divisions | 68 |
| 6. The Square re-forms Line | 70 |
| 7. The Square forms Double Column of Sub-divisions | 73 |
| 16. The Battalion in Line forms Square Two Deep, on the two Centre Companies | 76 |
| 2. The Square marches | 77 |
| 3. The Square re-forms Line | 79 |
| 17. The Battalion in Line changes Front to the Rear, upon the Centre | 81 |
| 18. The Battalion in Line throws forward a Flank, by means of the Open Column | 83 |
| 4. In like manner a Flank is thrown back | 86 |
| 19. The Battalion in Column forms Line to the Reverse Flank | 89 |
| 20. The Leading Flank of the Column is changed by the successive March of Divisions, from the Rear to the Front | 91 |
| 21. The like on a Road, by Double Files from the Centre . | 93 |

| SECTION | PAGE |
|---|------|
| 22. The Battalion in Line forms Close Column on a Flank | |
| Company | 96 |
| 2. On a Central Company | 100 |
| 3. The Column is formed facing to the Rear | 101 |
| 4. The Battalion in Line forms a Quarter-Distance | |
| Column | 105 |
| 5. Close and Quarter-Distance Column are formed | |
| from a more Open Column | 106 |
| 23. The Column at Close or Quarter Distance marches to a | |
| Flank | 108 |
| 24. The Quarter-Distance Column takes Ground to a Flank | |
| by the Echellon March of Sections | 110 |
| 25. The Column at Close Distance wheels from the Halt | 112 |
| 2. On the March | 113 |
| 3. The Column at Quarter Distance wheels from the | |
| Halt | 114 |
| 4. On the March | 114 |
| 26. The Close or Quarter-Distance Column countermarches | |
| by Sub-divisions round the Centre | 116 |
| 27. The Column at Close Distance opens out from the Front | |
| 2. From the Rear | 119 |
| 28. The Close Column deploys on the Front Company | 121 |
| 2. On the Rear Company | 123 |
| 3. The Quarter-Distance Column deploys | 126 |
| 29. The Battalion in Line wheels forward by Companies | |
| into Echellon | 128 |
| 2. The Echellon marches and halts | 129 |
| 30. The Echellon wheels back into Line | 131 |
| 31. The Battalion in Line throws forward a Flank, by the | |
| March of Divisions in Echellon | 132 |
| 32. The Battalion in Line throws back a Flank, by the | |
| March of Divisions in Echellon | 137 |
| 33. The Battalion throws forward one Flank, and back the | |
| other, by changing Position in Echellon on the Centre | 140 |

| SECTION | PAGE |
|---|------|
| 34. The Companies in Open Column wheel back into Echellon, in order to form Line | 143 |
| 35. The Companies of the Battalion in Line, march off in direct Echellon from a Flank | 146 |
| 2. The direct Echellon forms Line to a Flank | 148 |
| 3. The direct Echellon forms Column on one of its Divisions | 150 |
| 36. The Battalion in direct Echellon of Companies forms Square | 151 |
| 37. The Battalion in Line takes Ground to a Flank, by the Echellon March of Sub-divisions or Sections | 152 |
| Street Firing | 153 |
| <hr/> | |
| A few necessary Recollections | 157 |

TO
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
THE PRINCE ALBERT, K.G., K.T.,

§c. §c. §c.

Captain-General and Colonel of the Honorable Artillery Company.

SIR,

IN dedicating, by gracious permission, to your Royal Highness, the concluding part of this work, the original design of which was submitted to and approved by your Royal Highness, it is my earnest hope that the book, by accomplishing its intended object, may be found deserving the high honour of your Royal Highness's distinguished patronage.

I am, SIR,

With the most profound respect,

Your Royal Highness's

Very humble and most faithful Servant,

W. H. SNELL,
Captain and Adjutant, H.A.C.

P R E F A C E.

IN the present, as in the First Part of this Treatise on "COMPANY AND BATTALION DRILL," the language of the "Field Exercise" has been preserved as far as possible.

And here the Author is anxious to express a hope that he may not be considered presumptuous in submitting to Military readers his interpretation of the theory of that admirable work. No vain or personal feeling incited him to the task. His sole object has been to smooth the way to a clear comprehension of the existing "Rules and Regulations;" to remove difficulties encountered by himself when first called upon to grapple with the subject, and which he has reason to think have been equally experienced by many others, who have devoted themselves to the task of becoming proficient in the Drill. In a word, his aim has been to render this book a *Companion* to the Field Exercise.

In that character it is sent forth, and if it succeed in lightening the labour of the young Officer, the Author's most sanguine hopes will be realised—his exertions fully repaid.

July 1850.

ERRATA.

Page 27, 5th line from top, *for* "35," *read* "34."

Page 46, 6th line from bottom, *for* "35," *read* "34."

Page 46, 4th line from bottom, *for* "32," *read* "31."

BATTALION DRILL.

Proof of the Battalion.

THE battalion will fall in, in column of companies at open or half distance, right in front; and each company will be inspected and proved by its senior serjeant, or officer, in the manner explained for a single company. (See COMPANY DRILL, FORMS I. and II.)

Commanders and covering serjeants must faithfully remember the number of files in their divisions, as each company will require for its own front, and therefore for wheeling distance, two-thirds as many paces as there are files in it, *with an overplus of one inch for each file*; thus, 10 files will require 7 paces for their front, 15 files 10½ paces, 20 files 14 paces, 30 files 21 paces, and so on.

This rule will considerably assist each commander, after a little practice in measuring distances with the eye, in keeping proper wheeling distance from the company in his front; and it will also enable covering serjeants, in taking up points, to judge the space required, with an accuracy otherwise not to be secured.

When each company has been inspected and proved, the adjutant taking command will prove the battalion thus:—

Battalion—Attention.

Right Files—Shoulder Arms.

Left Files—Shoulder Arms.

As the right files shoulder, the supernumerary ranks of companies will take two paces to the rear; and the serjeants on the pivot flanks will take one pace to the front, and face inwards.

Right Sections—Recover Arms.
 Left Sections—Port Arms.
 Right Subdivisions—Shoulder Arms.
 Left Subdivisions—Shoulder Arms.
 Right Companies—Slope Arms.
 Left Companies—Slope Arms.
 Right Wing—Carry Arms.
 Left Wing—Carry Arms.
 Form Four Deep—(to the Front, Right, Left, and Rear)—March—Front.

Quick Time—Mark Time.

Threes Right Shoulders Forward—Re-form Column.
 Threes Left Shoulders Forward—Re-form Column.
 Sections Right—Re-form Column.
 Sections Left—Re-form Column.
 Subdivisions Right—Re-form Column.
 Subdivisions Left—Re-form Column.
 Sections Outwards—Re-form Column.

Halt.

Order Arms.

Fall In.

On the word "FALL IN," covering serjeants resume their places on the pivot flanks, and the supernumerary ranks of companies close up two paces. The object of their taking two paces to the rear when companies are proved, is, that in case the sections of threes should be wheeled back by the command "THREES, ON THE RIGHT (OR LEFT) BACKWARDS WHEEL," "QUICK MARCH," there may be space for that purpose.

Stand at Ease.

The adjutant will then hand over to the commanding officer the battalion ready for manœuvring.

OF THE BATTALION.

FORMATION OF THE BATTALION.

WHEN the battalion is in line, the companies, formed and arranged alike, will, without interval between them, join each other.

The grenadiers are on the right, the light infantry on the left of the line; and the other companies ranged between them, and numbered 1, 2, 3, and so on consecutively from right to left. In grenadier and fusilier regiments the flank companies are numbered like the rest.

The battalion is told off into right and left wings, and into right and left companies. Each company within itself being divided into right and left subdivisions; into four sections, numbered 1, 2, 3, 4; into right and left files; and into sections of threes.

The companies may be equalized in point of numbers when the battalion is formed for field movement; but it is also desirable that they should be accustomed to exercise in companies of unequal strength, as must often be the case on service.

The rear rank is at one pace from the front rank, and the supernumerary rank at three paces from the rear rank; the distance being taken from the heels of one rank to the heels of the rank in front.

The essential use of the supernumerary rank is to keep the others closed up to the front during the attack, and to prevent any break beginning in the rear. On this important service too many officers and non-commissioned officers cannot be employed.

All the field officers and adjutant are mounted.

The commanding officer, when the battalion is single, is, for the general purpose of exercise, the only officer in front; but in the march in line, and in the firings, he is in rear of the colours. The first major is six paces in rear of the 2nd company from the right; the second major at the same distance in rear of the 2nd company from the left; and the adjutant at the same distance in rear of the colours.

The colours, aligned with the front rank, are between the two centre companies, and thus divide the wings. The Queen's colour, carried by the senior ensign, is on the right, and the regimental colour, carried by the next in seniority, is on the left, and each is covered in the rear rank by a serjeant or steady man. Between the colours is a serjeant called "the front-rank centre serjeant." He is covered in the rear rank by another, called "the rear-rank centre serjeant," and in the supernumerary rank by a third, called "the supernumerary-rank centre serjeant." It is the duty of these three serjeants to direct the line when advancing or retiring; and when they move out for that purpose, the place of the serjeant in the front rank is to be preserved by an officer or serjeant from the supernumerary rank told off for that purpose.

Commanders of companies are on the right of their respective divisions, aligned with the front rank, covered in the rear rank by their senior or covering serjeants. The other officers and serjeants form the supernumerary rank, and are posted thus:—senior subalterns in rear of the second files from the left, and junior subalterns in rear of the centre of their respective divisions. If there are three subalterns with any company, the senior will be as already placed; the next in rear of the third; and the junior in rear of the second section. Serjeants, according to seniority, will be in rear of the different sections with the subalterns. The senior subaltern of the left company is on the left of it, aligned with the front rank, and covered by his supernumerary serjeant.

Four men or serjeants are told off as aids, and take post in rear of the two flank and the two centre companies.

The serjeant-major is in rear of the colours, aligned with the supernumerary rank. If the quarter-master-serjeant is on parade, he will be in the same place; the former covering the Queen's, and the latter the regimental colour.

The pioneers are assembled behind the centre of the right company, formed two deep, and nine paces from the supernumerary rank.

The drummers, fifers, and buglers of the battalion are assembled in two divisions, nine paces behind the supernumerary rank of the 2nd companies from the right and left flanks.

The musicians are nine paces from the supernumerary rank, in rear of the centre, formed two deep, and at loose files, but occupying no more space than is necessary.

The staff officers—viz., the surgeon, the assistant-surgeon, quarter-master, and paymaster, are three paces behind the music.

In general, officers remain posted with their proper companies, but commanding officers will occasionally make such changes as they may deem necessary.

Whenever commanders of companies move out of the front rank in parade, marching in column, wheeling into line, or otherwise, their places are taken by their covering serjeants, and preserved until their commanders again resume them.

All field movements and firings are to be performed with fixed bayonets, except when troops are acting as light infantry.

In order to distinguish words of command which are given by the commander of the battalion, from those given by the commanders of companies or their divisions, the commands of the former are in CAPITAL letters, and those of the latter in *italics*.

S. 1.—*When the Battalion takes Open Order.*

The battalion, being in line with fixed bayonets, will receive the command

REAR RANKS,
TAKE OPEN
ORDER.

At the word "Order," officers recover swords, and stepping quickly to the front, place themselves—

Commanders close in front of the 2nd files from the right of their divisions, and

Supernumerary officers (the junior of each company, when there are more than two, passing by the right flank of it) close in front of those files in rear of which they stood when the order was given.

The serjeant-major moves to the right of the line to correct the pivots.

Covering serjeants take a lengthened side step to the left, to allow supernumerary officers to pass through. They then move up and preserve their commanders' places in the front rank.

The right-hand men of companies, and the left-hand man of the line (in the rear rank) step back one pace, face to the right, and cover, under the superintendence of the serjeant-major.

MARCH.

Officers take three, and those carrying the colours three lengthened paces to the front, glance their eyes to the right, and correct their dressing under the superintendence of the senior major.

The senior major moves to the right of the line of officers for that purpose, and when they are correctly placed gives the word "STEADY," or a concerted signal, on which the officers

look to the front and port swords. The major aligns himself with them.

The junior major and adjutant move to the left of the line. The former aligns himself with the officers, and the latter with the front rank.

The serjeants who covered the colours step into the front rank, as the colours step out.

The rear rank steps back one pace, and the pivot men (those who stepped back at the caution) front up, and the whole dress by the right, under the direction of the serjeant-major, who then resumes his place in rear of the colours.

The supernumerary rank steps back one pace.

The drummers form up two deep on each flank of the line.

The pioneers form up on the right of the drummers of the right.

Staff officers take post on the right of the whole, at one pace distance from, and aligned with, the front rank.

The commander of the battalion advances ten paces before the colours.

The battalion, formed in this parade order, will await the approach of the general. When he presents himself before the centre, and is fifty or sixty paces distant, he will be received with a "general salute," the commander of the battalion giving the word

PRESENT ARMS. Officers bring their swords to the recover as the firelocks are, in the second motion, brought to the poise, and drop them to the saluting position, and bring their left hands to the cap peak, as the men perform the third and last motion of the "present."

The colours are lowered if the reviewing officer is by Regulation entitled to that compliment, but not otherwise.

The band, stationed in the rear, will, if the colours are lowered, play the first part of the "National Anthem;" if not, it will play some other slow march.

**SHOULDER
ARMS.**

Officers recover swords as the men shoulder, and port swords as their (the men's) right hands, after steadying the firelocks, are carried to the side.

The General will then go towards the right, the whole remaining perfectly steady, without paying any further compliment, while he passes along the front of the battalion, round the left flank, and along the rear. The music during this time may play, but it will cease when the General has returned to the right flank. While he is proceeding to place himself at the camp colour in front, the commander of the battalion will close the ranks.

S. 2.—*When the Battalion resumes Close Order.*

REAR RANKS, Officers recover swords, and with the colours
TAKE CLOSE and staff, face to the right.
ORDER.

Covering serjeants (except those covering the colours) face to the right.

Drummers and pioneers face to the centre.

MARCH. Officers and colours return to their respective places at close order, (the junior of each company, if there are more than two subalterns, again passing by the right of it,) front, right about, and then carry swords.

Covering serjeants take three paces of right close, and a pace to rear with the right feet, to allow the supernumerary officers to pass through. They then front up, and cover their commanders.

The serjeant coverers of the colours step back one pace.

The rear and supernumerary ranks close up one pace.

Drummers, pioneers, and staff resume their places, as in the original formation of the the battalion in close order.

S. 3.—*The Line forms Open Column, Right in Front.*

**FORM
OPEN COLUMN,
RIGHT IN
FRONT.** Commanders place themselves in double time, close in front of the centre of their divisions, and take one pace to the front.

The subaltern on the left of the line, and his covering serjeant, fall to the rear.

The covering serjeant of the right company (which will be the leading one of the column) marks where its wheeling or right flank will rest.

All the other covering serjeants place themselves in rear of the centre of their companies.

The left-hand men of companies, in the front rank, face to the right.

The supernumerary rank closes up two paces.

The mounted officers rein back, and the drummers, pioneers, staff, and musicians step back a sufficient distance to allow divisions to wheel without obstacle.

**RIGHT
ABOUT FACE.** The senior major faces his charger to the right. The junior major and adjutant face theirs to the left.

The colours and centre serjeants face only to the right. Musicians, drummers, and pioneers do the same.

All the rest (except the coverers of pivot men) face right about.

RIGHT WHEEL. The *proper* front rank locks up.

QUICK MARCH. The senior major moves to the head of the column, and takes post six paces in front of the third section of the leading division.

The junior major moves to the rear, and takes post six paces behind the 1st section of the rear division.

The adjutant takes post eight paces in rear of the 3rd section of the same division.

Commanders incline during the wheel to the left or standing flanks of their divisions.

Supernumeraries make a change corresponding with that of their commanders.

The colours wheel to the right, and thus file into their place one pace in rear of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th files from the left of the right centre company. They then receive from the officer carrying the Queen's colour (by whom all orders which are given to the colours are to be delivered in a low tone of voice) the command, *Halt, Front, Dress*.

Covering serjeants, except the one of the leading division, move during the wheel to their posts in the column; that is, one pace in rear of the 2nd files from the pivot flanks of their respective divisions.

Each company wheels, rear rank in front, round its pivot man; and commanders will allow the wheeling flanks to go well in rear, so that the men may *dress up* to the base.

Musicians, drummers, and fifers form up six paces before the senior major; and the pioneers in two ranks, six paces before the music, having a corporal at their head to lead them.

Halt, Front, Dress. Commanders take their places on the left of divisions, and see to cover correctly.

The covering serjeant of the leading division moves by the rear of his company to his post in the column.

The men front right about, and dress upon their leaders. Having taken up the dressing rapidly, yet carefully, they look to the front.

The supernumerary rank is at one pace distance from the rear rank.

If open column is to be formed left in front, the *right-hand* men of companies in the front rank face to the *left*; and the covering serjeant of the *left* company marks where its wheeling flank will rest. All the other changes on the caution, are the same as when column is to be formed right in front.

When the line faces about, the colours face to the left. Companies and colours then wheel to the left, and commanders incline to the *right* of their divisions, from whence they order, *Halt, Front, Dress*. In this case supernumeraries do not make any change, because division leaders are still on the right flanks of their companies.

If the divisions are small, column may be formed by wheeling the companies back without facing about. In this case the commands will be COMPANIES ON THE LEFT, (OR RIGHT,) BACKWARDS WHEEL, QUICK MARCH, and when they have wheeled back into column, *Halt, Dress*.

S. 4.—*Marching past in Slow and Quick Time.*

On the command **POINTS TO MARCH PAST**, seven men or serjeants, told off for that purpose, will quickly place themselves at the following points, all facing in the same direction as the column does before it moves off.

1. In front of the pivot flank, so that division leaders will just brush him with their outward arms as they wheel round.

2. At sufficient distance from the first to allow divisions to pass between.

3. Shewing the point, *at company distance short of which* the second wheel is to be commenced.

4. Thirty paces from the camp colour, shewing where the ranks are to be opened.

5. Twenty paces beyond the camp colour, shewing where the ranks are to be closed.

6. Where divisions are to make their third wheel.

7. Where the fourth and last wheel, which will bring the divisions on their original ground, is to be made.

If no camp colour is placed to mark the saluting point, a serjeant will be posted there—viz., six paces to the left of, and facing towards, the line of points.

MARCH PAST The rear ranks of companies lock up.
IN Staff serjeants in rear of the colours draw
SLOW TIME. swords.

MARCH. All step off together, and commanders must give their undivided attention to their covering and distance. In order to preserve the latter, they must, as before stated, know the number of files in their divisions, and each will keep from the company in his front, two-thirds as many paces as he has files in his own company, with an overplus of one-inch for each file.

The lieutenant-colonel takes post six paces in front of the 1st section of the leading division, and the senior major reins back a little.

*Right
Shoulders
Forward.*

The several companies wheel successively by command of their leaders at the first and second angles of the ground on the *moveable* pivot; pivot men must, therefore, while the divisions wheel on them, so circle round as to leave the place clear for the next company by the time it marches up.

As each company in succession commences its second wheel, its commander, turning inwards, will step back along the front, and superintending the wheel, incline to where the right of the company will be when it has completed the quarter circle.

Covering serjeants change flanks by the rear, as their leaders do so by the front.

Supernumeraries make, during the wheel, a corresponding change.

When the right centre company arrives at the second wheeling point, the colours make a half-turn to the right, and lead out to the new pivot flank, and take post in rear of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th files from the right.

Forward.

Each company in succession receives this command from its leader after each wheel; and after the second wheel "*By the right*" should be added, as a direction to the men to keep the touch to that flank.

The music will begin to play just after the leading company has made this second wheel, and when the band arrives opposite the General, it will draw up facing him, and continue to play until the rear of the column shall have passed.

*Rear Ranks,
take Open
Order.*

The leading company, and each other successively as it arrives at the point where open order is to be taken, receives this command, on which officers recover swords, and stepping round in double time, place themselves three paces (it is a common fault to find officers only about one pace and a half from the front rank) in front of the same files as when taking open order from the halt. They then **PORT SWORDS together**, taking time by the right.

Covering serjeants step up and preserve their commanders' places, and become responsible for the covering and distance; which latter, it must be remembered, is to be taken from the heels of the *front* rank of the preceding division.

Rear ranks mark time two paces.

Supernumerary ranks and colours mark time three paces.

At ten paces from the General the officers of each company successively will salute, the commander on the right, giving the time to the rest by some concerted signal, two paces before the salute is commenced. That must be at the *full extent of the arm*, the first time the left feet are advanced to the front after the signal, and the rotatory motion of the arm is to be continued without *any* pause. Swords are lowered at the fourth pace, and the left hands brought to the chako-peak in two paces more, and at the same moment, with a slight turn of the heads, eyes are to be directed towards the General.

In this position officers will march ten paces. At the 11th pace swords are to be recovered, and the left hands carried away; and at the 12th pace the swords will again be brought down to the port.

If the officer on the right of each company judges the distance from the General correctly, and gives the signal to commence as above laid down, the salute is almost sure to be properly performed; otherwise it will as surely be spoiled,

from officers commencing one after the other, and occupying greater or less time than is prescribed by Regulation. If those who salute could only see the awkward appearance which carelessness and want of precision necessarily occasion, more pains would be taken to execute the salute with that grace which ought invariably to distinguish it. All the swords should perform the motion simultaneously, and at the same time so evenly, that each motion should seem blended in the other, and the swords should appear to be guided by the same and not by different hands.

The colours mark time with the supernumerary rank of the right centre company, and are lowered if the General is by Regulation entitled to that compliment.

The commanding officer, after he has saluted at the head of the battalion, wheels round and places himself near the General, and remains there until the rear has marched past.

*Rear Ranks,
take Close
Order.*

On this command given by leaders of companies in succession, at the point placed twenty paces beyond the General,

Officers recover swords and turn outwards; those who have to pass by the left, turn to the left, and commanders and 3rd subalterns (if there are three) turn to the right and resume their places at close order, in quick time. They then carry swords, and take up the slow march.

Covering serjeants drop back, and cover the 2nd files from the pivot flanks.

The rear and supernumerary ranks close up gradually, by stepping out.

*Right
Shoulders
Forward.*

The several companies wheel successively by this command at the 3rd wheeling point. During the wheel,

Commanders change flanks by the rear.

Coverings serjeants follow them.

Supernumeraries make a corresponding change.

The colours change also.

Forward. This command is given to each company as it completes the wheel, and the words "*By the left*" should be added, that the men who have been marching by, and touching to, the right, may do so by the left.

When the leading company is near to where the left of the battalion originally stood, the commanding officer will order QUICK, and the quick time will be taken up. If this is not to be done on the march, he would order

HALT. The rear ranks of companies, in order to be a full pace from the front ranks, take only a short pace.

**MARCH
PAST IN
QUICK TIME.** The rear ranks lock up.

**SLOPE ARMS,
QUICK MARCH.** The arms are sloped, and all march off together in quick time.

**Right
Shoulders
Forward,
Forward.** The companies make three several wheels on the *moveable* pivot: first, where the left of the battalion stood, which brings the column again on its original ground; next, at the point where the first wheel was made, in marching past in slow time; and thirdly, at the point where the second wheel was made, which brings the battalion on the line of passing the General.

At this point commanders, covering sergeants, supernumeraries, and colours, change flanks as before, and at the "*Forward, by the Right,*" which should be given on the *right* feet, the leading company, and each of the others successively, "**CARRIES ARMS,**" and marches off, keeping the touch to the right. The word "*Forward,*" being thus given on the right feet, will enable the men to "**CARRY,**" as their left feet are advanced. Their right hands will

steady the firelocks, and not be brought away until the left feet are again advanced to the front.

The music begins to play as before, and will draw up facing the General, until the rear of the column has passed.

The lieutenant-colonel takes post, as before.

The ranks are not opened, nor do the officers move out or salute, but swords are still to be *carried*.

*Right
Shoulders
Forward,
Forward.*

At the 3rd and 4th wheeling points, companies wheel as before; commanders, covering serjeants, supernumeraries, and colours changing at the first of those two points, as in marching past in slow time.

When the column has arrived on its original ground, the commander of the battalion will order

HALT.

This done, not a motion must be made, but all will continue steady, and look to the front.

The staff serjeants return swords.

S. 5.—*Forming in Line.*

LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE. Commanders in double time place themselves close in front of the centre of their divisions, and take one pace to the front.

The covering serjeant of the leading division, passing by the left flank of it, will mark where the right of the line will rest.

Other covering serjeants place themselves on the right of their companies, aligned with the front ranks.

The rear ranks of companies lock up.

The left-hand men of companies in the front rank face to the left, raise their right arms horizontally from the elbow, and glance their eyes to the right, to correct the dressing. Their coverers uncover.

The senior major dresses the pivots from the right, and orders "STEADY."

QUICK MARCH. Commanders turn about, and superintending the wheel of their divisions, incline to where their right flanks will rest in the line.

Supernumeraries during the wheel make a corresponding change.

The coverers of pivot men move gradually into their places.

Mounted officers, musicians, drummers, and pioneers go to their places as laid down in the original formation.

The colours wheel on the centre, and step up at *shortened* paces into line.

Halt, Dress. Each commander, halting his company in time, dresses it from the 2nd file of the company on his right, and to that flank the men's eyes are to be turned on the word "*Dress.*"

The duty of dressing must always be performed without noise or bawling to the men, which has an unsteady and unmilitary appearance.

If it be necessary to call any particular men to dress up or back, it must be done in a low tone, so as to be heard only by the company.

The senior subaltern of the left company places himself on the left of the line, and is covered by his serjeant.

The supernumerary rank halts three paces from the rear rank, and dresses by the right.

Eyes Front. Commanders take their places on the right of their companies.

Covering serjeants step back one pace.

Each pivot man drops his right hand as the command "*Eyes Front*" is given to his company. The men at the same time look to the front.

If line is to be formed from column left in front, the rear ranks of companies lock up, the *right*-hand front-rank men face to the right, and their coverers uncover. Commanders place themselves in front of the centre of their divisions, and take one pace to the front. Covering serjeants (except the one of the leading division, who marks where its wheeling flank will rest) remain where they are, ready, as the line is formed, to preserve their commanders' places on the right; while commanders themselves halt and dress their companies from the 2nd files of divisions on their *left*, and then change to their places in the line by the rear after the command "*Eyes Front*."

If after wheeling into line, distances have been lost, and it is necessary to close by the side step to regain them, such closing will always be made to or from the centre, which is the point of *appui*. Thus: On the command

RIGHT (OR
LEFT) CLOSE.

The commander of the named company, if of the right wing, will pass by the front of his division in double time, and place himself close

in front of the left file of it, take three paces to the front, and face right about. If of the left wing, he will merely take three lengthened paces to the front, and face right about.

As the division leader steps out, his covering serjeant steps up to preserve his place.

QUICK MARCH. The commander of the company closes with it, so as to be ready to give the word "HALT" at the proper moment ; and when his division has closed sufficiently, he orders

Halt. and resumes his place in the line, passing to it by the rear, if of the right wing. (*See COMPANY DRILL, Section 3, page 17.*)

S. 6.—*Manual and Platoon.*

When the line is formed, the commanding officer will give a caution that the Manual and Platoon Exercises are to be performed, and he will then go to the rear of the battalion. The senior major, or other officer appointed to the duty, advances in front of the centre, and orders

REAR RANKS TAKE OPEN ORDER—MARCH.

As before, except that the officers, after taking three paces to the front, will port swords, without being dressed from the right.

ORDER ARMS.

UNFIX BAYONETS.

SHOULDER ARMS.

OFFICERS AND COLOURS TAKE POST OF EXERCISE IN THE REAR.

Officers recover swords, and, with the colours, face to the right. Covering sergeants, except those who cover the colours, do the same.

QUICK MARCH.

Covering sergeants take one pace of right close, and a short pace to rear with the *right* feet.

Officers and colours pass to the rear through the intervals thus left, and halt, facing to the rear, when aligned with the supernumerary rank. The colours pass through at the interval on the right of the left centre company.

Covering sergeants front up when the officers and colours have passed through.

FRONT.

The colours and officers, with swords still recovered, face right about. Swords are then to be carried.

MANUAL EXERCISE BY WORD OF COMMAND.

SECURE ARMS, &c.

During the **Manual Exercise**, which is to be performed according to Regulation, covering serjeants perform such of the changes as are laid down in the Fusil Exercise; but during the "Platoon," they remain with fixed bayonets, steady at the shoulder.

When the "Manual" is finished, the order, *without unfixing bayonets*, will be, if the men are only to go through the Platoon shortly, *as front and rear ranks standing*,

ORDER ARMS.

STAND AT EASE.

ATTENTION.

SHOULDER ARMS.

REAR RANKS TAKE CLOSE ORDER.

Commanders of companies recover swords, and their covering serjeants face to the right.

MARCH.

Covering serjeants take three side steps of right close, and a short pace to the rear. They then front up and cover their commanders, who move up into line, and then carry swords. The colours also move up into line. The rear ranks close up.

PLATOON EXERCISE IN THE SLOW TIME.

AS FRONT AND REAR RANKS STANDING—LOAD, &c.

After the men have, by command, cast about and primed,

READY—PRESENT—LOAD.

The men load in the quick time, cast about and prime, without words of command. The officer then orders

SHOULDER ARMS,

and returns to his place in the line.

It is repeated that this is the manner of proceeding, *only* if the Platoon Exercise is to be performed shortly, as above set out. If on the contrary, the reviewing officer wishes to see the Platoon at greater length, the officer

appointed to put the battalion through, will, when arms are ordered, after the Manual, gives the words—

UNFIX BAYONETS,
STAND AT EASE,
ATTENTION,
SHOULDER ARMS;

and then, *with unfixed bayonets, and ranks still opened,*

PLATOON EXERCISE IN THE SLOW TIME.

AS FRONT (OR REAR) RANKS STANDING—LOAD.

In this case both ranks will act in the same way as front *or* rear ranks, standing *or* kneeling, as the reviewing officer may particularly desire. When the slow time is finished (and not till then) the rear ranks will take close order. Then such parts of the Platoon will be performed with fixed bayonets and closed ranks, as may be directed; the front rank as a front rank, and the rear rank as a rear rank, standing or kneeling, receiving cavalry as the two front ranks, *or* as the two rear ranks of a square four deep, &c.

When the Platoon Exercise is finished, the commander of the battalion, advancing to the front, will order,

WITH CARTRIDGE—LOAD,
SHOULDER ARMS;

and then commence such of the movements laid down in the following Sections, as may be deemed applicable to the nature of the ground, or as may be ordered by the General; or as he (the commanding officer) himself, if left to his own discretion, shall think fit.

MOVEMENTS OF THE BATTALION FROM LINE.

S. 7.—*When the Battalion, Halted and correctly
Dressed, is to Advance in Line.*

THE BAT-
TALION WILL
ADVANCE.

The rear rank locks up.

The front-rank centre serjeant takes six paces to the front in quick time and halts. At the same time the rear and supernumerary-rank centre serjeants who were covering him, pass through the interval and move up; the former on his left, and the latter on his right side. An officer or serjeant from the rear replaces the leading serjeant in the front rank, and is again covered by the serjeant-major, six or eight paces in rear of the line. These three points being corrected by the adjutant, a fourth point in prolongation is easily obtained, and the centre serjeant will be directed to march upon it; or if there be no particular object for him to march upon, he will prolong from the centre of his heels a line perpendicular to himself, and to the battalion, and take up any accidental small point on the ground within 100 or 150 paces. Intermediate ones cannot be wanting, and their renewal is easy as he successively approaches them in his march.

These preparatory arrangements being made, the mounted officer will give the word "STEADY," as a signal that the line of direction is determined.

MARCH, OR QUICK MARCH. The whole battalion steps off in slow or quick time, usually the latter, as that is the pace applied to all *general* movements, whether in line or column.

The march in line is the most important and difficult of all movements, and requires the greatest attention on the part of every one for its true attainment. The essential points to be observed, are the perpendicular direction of the march to the front of the battalion, as then standing, and the perfect squareness of the shoulders and body of each individual; the light touch of the files to the centre; and the accurate equality of cadence and step given by the advanced serjeants.

The adjutant and serjeant-major will remain steady in rear of the line for 20 or 30 paces, to ascertain the squareness and correctness of the line of march. If the advanced serjeants are ordered to bring their right or left shoulders a little up, it must be done gradually, and *in a very small degree*, as the least alteration on their part makes a great change in the position and squareness of the line.

The serjeant for the time being between the colours will carefully follow the front-rank centre serjeant.

If the battalion slopes arms, the three advanced serjeants and the one between the colours will still keep their fusils at the shoulder.

HALT. The directing serjeants resume their places in their line.

If the men have been marching with sloped arms, they must at all times "CARRY" them on the word "HALT;" and the hands after steadying the firelocks are to be carried away with as much precision as when performing the manual exercise.

If during the advance in line it is necessary to form to either flank, divisions may be wheeled to the right or left on the moveable pivot, and line may then be formed on the front, or on any other company of the column, by the echellon march of divisions, either by the shoulders forward, (*see* SECTION 12, page 44,) or by wheeling divisions back on their reverse flanks (*see* SECTION 35).

2.—*When the Battalion is to Retire.*

THE BATTALION WILL
RETIRE.

The directing serjeants face about, and the same arrangements are made as for the advance, except that the rear-rank centre serjeant will take post on the then right (the proper left) of the front-rank centre serjeant. He will thus be at his proper place, should the battalion while retiring be ordered to do so by wings.

The adjutant and serjeant-major to correct the points, pass to the front through a space made for them by the officers who carry the colours, taking a short pace to the front and a side step outwards. Those officers resume their places when the former have passed through. The adjutant, seeing that the points are correctly placed, orders "STEADY."

RIGHT ABOUT
FACE.

All face right about.

RETIRE.

The *proper* front rank locks up.

MARCH,
or
QUICK MARCH.

The rear-rank men must avoid closing their files more than usual, otherwise the front-rank men, who are generally the larger, will be crowded.

When the flank companies of a battalion are wheeled backward, and faced outward in order to cover its flanks, such companies, if during the retreat they march in file, will take particular care to move in the same direction as the battalion, so as not impede its progress. When the battalion fronts, those companies will again face outward.

Firing should commence after every formation, but whether by the whole battalion, or by fractional parts of it, it must depend much upon circumstances. No positive rule can be laid down to define the particular occasions to which each method is exclusively or particularly applicable. A few broad principles only can be given, and the judgment of the commanding officer, the circumstances of the case, and the nature of the ground, must determine the rest.

But be the firing by files, by divisions, or otherwise, the men must ever be taught to fire coolly and deliberately. All firing, and particularly file firing, is likely to produce excitement, and that, if not repressed, will inevitably lead to hurry and confusion. The men will load hastily, and discharge their pieces without aim or level; and though such performance may *sound* well, it does no more than sound. Instead of carrying terror and dismay into the enemy's ranks, as well directed discharges, which sweep everything before them, must do, it emboldens the enemy, by shewing him the unskilfulness, the harmlessness of his opponents. "It is impossible, therefore," says the Field Exercise, "to labour too much at giving to soldiers the habit of steady, cool, and effective firing." They must not consider their duty to be to load and fire as fast as possible, regardless of the result—but to cause the greatest possible loss to the enemy with the least possible expenditure of their own ammunition.

After an advance in line, the firing, if by files or companies, should commence *from the centre, and not from the flanks*; but volley firing being the heaviest, and consequently the most destructive, is more particularly applicable to infantry in line advancing to the attack, as affording an opportunity to charge before the enemy has recovered from its paralyzing effect.

S. 8.—*When the Battalion, advancing in Line, is to Charge.*

**PREPARE TO
CHARGE.**

The men of the front rank seize the firelocks at the shoulder, as their left feet come to the front, and bring them down to the "LONG TRAIL," as the left feet are again advanced. At the same time the rear rank will mark time one pace, and bring their arms to the "SLOPE."

The directing serjeants mark time, and resume their places in the line as it reaches them.

CHARGE.

Upon this command, which ought soon to follow the caution, the front rank only will come to the "CHARGE."

The rear rank continues at the "SLOPE," and all take up the double march, which, as before, is to be regulated by the *centre*.

HALT.

The men of the front rank "SHOULDER," and those of the rear rank, closing up to one pace from the front rank, "CARRY" arms. The whole, if ordered to dress, will do so by the *centre*; but if much dressing is required, points will be ordered to the front, and the battalion will be minutely dressed, as explained in the next Section.

S. 9.—*Dressing a Battalion after a Charge.*

POINTS — The regimental colour, the captain of the right centre company, and the officer on the left of the line, step forward a given number of paces, (say six,) and face to the left.

PACES TO THE FRONT. The junior major moves to the left, and sees that they cover correctly: he then orders "STEADY," on which the other leaders of companies will move briskly to the front, and cover to the left on the points which have been prepared.

**BATTALION
RIGHT FOR-
WARD, DRESS.**

The rear rank locks up.

QUICK MARCH. The line steps off, and each company receives from its own leader, as it reaches him, the command—

Halt, Dress. and after it has been carefully dressed—

Eyes Front. Commanders of companies do not fall in to their places in the line, until the commanding officer, being satisfied with the dressing, gives the word "STEADY."

In brigade, officers taking up a line of dressing, face towards the battalion of formation.

S. 10.—*When the Battalion, moving in Line, passes a Wood or other Impediment, to Front or Rear, by the Flank March of Companies in File.*

The march in line is generally adopted where the country is open; but in certain cases, where partial obstacles occur, they can be avoided by filing to the right or left, and then left or right wheel, to follow the formed flank of the line. (See COMPANY DRILL, Section 18, page 50.) The formation in this manner will increase as the obstacle increases; but as it diminishes, the files will successively form up until the whole are again in line. Where the obstacles are of small extent, but frequently occurring, this mode is the most ready that can be applied, in either advancing or retiring. When they are of greater extent, an entire column formation should be adopted, thus :—

1.—*If to pass to the Front.*

FROM THE RIGHT OF COMPANIES, PASS BY FILES TO THE FRONT. The junior major gallops to the left of the line as the parallelism of the heads of companies will be corrected from that flank.

RIGHT TURN— Each company turns and wheels in file as a single company, being led by its covering serjeant, with the division leader on the left or pivot flank of the leading file.

LEFT WHEEL. The colours act as a division.

If companies are to pass to the front from the **LEFT**, the commands will be **LEFT TURN**, **RIGHT WHEEL**, and each commander will pass by the **FRONT** of his company in double time, to the right of the leading file, while each covering serjeant moves by the rear in the same manner,

and takes post in front of the front-rank man of that file. Supernumeraries will make a corresponding change.

In this case the dressing of the heads of companies, and the distance between them, are corrected from, and regulated by, the right. On that flank, the senior major places himself accordingly.

If the movement is from the halt, the rear rank will lock up on the caution, and the commands will be, "RIGHT FACE, LEFT WHEEL," or "LEFT FACE, RIGHT WHEEL," QUICK MARCH.

Each division leader, on arriving at the further edge of the wood, will halt his company, and remain till the others are come up, and till the whole are ordered to march out, and form in battalion; which will be done by standing in open column, dressing pivot flanks from the leading division, and wheeling up into line; or, if the companies form up separately on the edge of the wood, they will march out and join in the battalion.

The column after being halted and fronted, will stand LEFT in front, if companies passed to the front from the right; and RIGHT in front, if they passed from the left. Column may, however, after passing to the front, from the right of companies, be formed right in front; or, after passing to the front, from the left of companies, it may be formed left in front, by ordering—

ON THE LEAD- Each company will form to the reverse flank, ING FILES OF as explained in COMPANY DRILL, Section 20, COMPANIES TO page 59; and the leading files, after turning to THE RIGHT (OR the right, (or left,) and taking one pace to the LEFT) FORM the right, must be careful to cover the corresponding COLUMN. files of the division in front, which will prevent any unnecessary shuffling afterwards, to enable division leaders to cover.

Division leaders, instead of slipping round the files on which the formation is made, and dressing their companies as they would in Company Drill, will (as divisions in column dress themselves) turn about, and, superintend-

ing the formation, step back to where their covering serjeants (who, on the caution, run out and mark where the pivot flanks of their companies will rest) are posted.

Upon this principle, line may of course be formed, either to the right or left, as explained after an advance in line. (See SECTION 7, page 26.)

If after passing the wood, and while yet in file, with the heads of companies correctly dressed, it is desired to re-form line to the front, it may be done on the march in the same manner as a single company in file would form company to the front; thus:—On the command—

**FRONT FORM
LINE.**

The leading files of divisions mark time, and the rear-rank men of those files gradually drop back and cover.

Divisions turn to the proper front, and bring shoulders forward.

Commanders and covering serjeants (if companies passed to the front from the right) merely slip round the leading files; but if companies passed from the left, commanders will turn inwards, and, superintending the formation, step back along the front to where the right will be when the wheel is completed.

Covering serjeants at the same time change by the rear.

Supernumeraries change during the wheel.

The colours act as a division.

After forming to the front, the line will mark time, until the word **FORWARD** or **HALT** is given.

If line is to be formed *without marking time*, the leading files of companies (the rear-rank men of which drop back and cover) will march steadily on, while the others make a half-turn to the *pivot* flank, and double up, each file successively resuming the quick step as it comes into the alignment.

The battalion may also pass to the front from the right

or left of companies *by threes* instead of in file; and, after passing the wood, line may be formed to the front, with or without marking time; or column may be formed to the pivot or reverse flank, as readily as from file marching, thus:—

If line is to be formed to the front, the leading threes of companies mark time, while the rest make a half-turn to the *pivot* flank, and move up diagonally into line.

If column is to be formed to the pivot flank, the commands are merely “THREES, — SHOULDERS FORWARD, HALT, DRESS.” If to the reverse flank, “ON THE LEADING THREES OF COMPANIES TO THE —, FORM COLUMN,” on which each leading section of threes wheels to the named flank, takes two paces to the front, halts, and covers. The remaining sections march on, and wheel up as they successively reach the outward flanks of those last formed before. (*See COMPANY DRILL*, Section 19, page 55.)

Commanders and covering serjeants in each of these cases move to their places in the line or column, in the same manner as in the like formations from the march in file.

The rules laid down and explained in “COMPANY DRILL” for the single company during these formations, apply, in all the detail of instruction, (except as excepted,) to the companies in battalion.

If companies pass to the front by threes from the *Halt*, the rear rank must lock up on the caution “THREES, — SHOULDERS FORWARD.”

2.—*If to pass to the Rear.*

FROM THE
PROPER RIGHT, (OR LEFT) OF
COMPANIES,
PASS BY FILES TO THE REAR.
When the battalion, retiring in line, arrives at the point where it must break, it receives this command; and if the movement is to be from the “PROPER LEFT” of companies, the junior major will dress the heads of divisions from that flank of the line.

RIGHT TURN—
LEFT WHEEL.

Commanders change by the *proper* front.

Covering serjeants do so by the *proper* rear.

Supernumeraries make a corresponding change.

If the battalion while retiring is to pass to the rear from the "PROPER RIGHT" of companies, the commands will be, **LEFT TURN—RIGHT WHEEL**, and the senior major will dress the heads of companies from the *proper right* flank.

As a short rule it, may be stated that in these movements the parrallelism of the heads of companies is always corrected from that flank which would be in front if the column were halted and fronted.

Should the column, after passing to the rear, be halted and fronted, commanders will pass by the *front* to the pivot flank, while their covering serjeants change by the rear.

If while retiring in file or threes, column is formed to the reverse flank, division leaders merely slip round their leading files (or threes) and cover; they are thus at once in their proper places.

Line may also be re-formed to the rear, whether from companies in file or sections of threes, on the principles explained for forming it to the front after an advance.

3.—*If attacked by Cavalry while moving to the Front or Rear, in File or Sections of Threes.*

If in File.

**FORM SQUARE
UPON THE
CENTRE.**

If passing to the front from the right of companies, this caution will imply that square is to be formed on the right centre company, because the column if fronted would be left in front. If passing to the front from the left of companies, it will imply that square is to be formed on the left centre company, because if the column were fronted it would be right in front.

**INWARDS
TURN, DOUBLE**

All however move steadily on until the command "INWARDS TURN;" then, the wings

turn inwards, and the commander of that centre company on which the square is to be formed, orders—

Sections Outwards. The sections wheel to the right and left, the rear ones close to the front, and each halts without word of command.

In the meantime, the companies which are front rank in front (after turning inwards) march on, and, except the two last, wheel outwards into square by command of their leaders, as they successively arrive within section distance of those already formed.

The supernumeraries of the two last companies hasten inside the square while it is yet open, and each of those companies, as it arrives at its place, receives the command from its own leader, who is inside the square, *Halt, about Face. Right about Face.*

The companies of the other wing at the same time move towards the centre, but *rear rank in front*; and when each, except the two last, has closed up to the sections of the company formed before, it will receive the command—

Front Turn, Sections Outwards. After turning to the front, the sections wheel outwards, and the rear ones close up as before.

Halt, Front, Dress. The two last companies close up, and receive the commands, *Halt, Front, Dress.*

The sections forming the right face dress by the left, those of the left face by the right, and the companies forming the front and rear faces of the square, dress by the centre.

If in Threes.

If advancing in sections of threes, the commands to form square will be—

THREES, RIGHT }
 (OR LEFT)
 SHOULDERS
 FORWARD,
 FORWARD.

And when thus in column—

SQUARE ON THE
 CENTRE, —
 WING, RIGHT
 ABOUT TURN,
 DOUBLE.

As soon as the leading wing has turned about, the commander of the leading company of the rear wing (the right or left centre division, as the case may be) will order *Sections Outwards*; and the formation proceeds as already explained.

If the line, while passing by files or threes to the *rear*, is threatened by cavalry, square will be formed on the right centre company if passing from the proper left, and on the left centre company if passing from the proper right of divisions. In short, whether the line passes to the *front* or *rear*, from the *right* or *left* of companies, in *file* or in *threes*, square is formed on that centre company which is front rank in front after the wings have turned inwards, or the leading wing has turned about.

4.—*If a Battalion in First Line passes through a*
 • *Second which advances and relieves it.*

The relieving battalion marches up, and when *within company distance* of the battalion to be relieved, the *latter* receives the commands, if it is to pass to the rear from the right of companies—

FROM THE
 RIGHT OF
 COMPANIES,
 PASS BY FILES
 TO THE REAR.
 RIGHT FACE,
 RIGHT WHEEL,
 QUICK MARCH.

The rear rank locks up on the caution, and companies then face, and wheel to the right.

While the first line thus passes to the rear, the second continues the advance, and breaks off files wherever the head of a division presents

itself; and those files move up again when the divisions have passed through.

When the retiring battalion has passed to the rear, it will, at any ordered distance, halt, front, and wheel up into line.

5.—*When the Second Line does not ADVANCE to relieve the First.*

The battalion in first line retires, and when *within 12 paces* of the second line, passes through it by files or threes, from the right or left of companies, in manner already directed.

It is a general rule, that the relieving line is never broken, except to allow the line to be relieved to file through it.

S. 11.—*When the Battalion advances or retires by Half Battalions, and Fires.*

1.—*If the Battalion is in March, and advancing.*

THE BATTALION WILL ADVANCE BY WINGS. On this caution the left wing receives from the junior major the command—

LEFT WING, HALT. It does so; and with it, the officer carrying the regimental colour.

Also the rear-rank centre serjeant.

Also the serjeant-major, to superintend, and if necessary, to correct that point.

In the meantime the right wing moves steadily on; and the officer carrying the Queen's colour obliques to the left; so as to cover the front-rank centre serjeant, on whom the advance is then made. The supernumerary-rank centre serjeant falls to the rear, and resumes his place in the supernumerary rank. The adjutant accompanies the right wing, to see that the advance is truly made. Commanders and covering serjeants of that wing change by the rear, to the left or inward flanks of their companies. Supernumeraries make a corresponding change.

When the right wing has advanced 15 paces, it receives from the senior major the command—

RIGHT WING, HALT. As it does so, the serjeant giving the advance, drops back till close in front of the officer carrying the Queen's colour.

LEFT WING, QUICK MARCH. At the same instant that the right wing halts, the left wing receives from the junior major the command "LEFT WING, QUICK MARCH."

As soon as the left wing is in motion, the right wing will receive the word—

RIGHT WING, The men fire, make a pause of one pace in
READY, slow time, then load, cast about, and prime.
P'SENT.

SHOULDER While the men shoulder, the directing ser-
ARMS. jeant moves out and takes up his point.

QUICK MARCH. The instant the right wing is in motion, the left wing is halted, and proceeds in the same way. Thus, the left wing touching to the right, and the right wing touching to the left, they proceed alternately, under the general supervision of the commander of the battalion; the "READY, P'SENT" of the advanced wing instantly succeeding the march of the other wing.

FORM LINE Commanders of the right wing, and their
ON THE covering serjeants, return to the right of their
LEADING companies by the rear. Supernumeraries make
WING. a corresponding change.

The officer carrying the Queen's colour, if the right wing is in front, closes two paces to the right, (or if that wing is marching up from the rear, obliques to the right,) and resumes his original place.

The front-rank centre serjeant, who is with the right wing, takes post on the left of that officer, that being his place in the line.

The rear-rank centre serjeant, who is with the left wing, drops in rear of it, ready to cover his front-rank serjeant when the line is formed.

HALT. When the rear wing reaches the leading one, it receives from its immediate commander the word "HALT."

2.—*If the Battalion is in March, and retiring.*

THE
BATTALION On this caution, the right wing receives
WILL RETIRE from the senior major the command—
BY WINGS.

RIGHT WING, It does so; and the commanders of it, and
HALT, FRONT. their covering, serjeants change by the rear to
the inward flanks of their companies, as already
explained for the advance; the officer carrying
the Queen's colour taking two steps of left
close, to make space for the commander of the
right centre company.

The left wing having retired 15 paces be-
yond the right, receives from the junior major
the command—

LEFT WING, As soon as it is fronted, the right wing
HALT, FRONT. receives the word—

RIGHT WING,
READY, And, after firing, loading, and priming,—
P'SENT.

SHOULDER
ARMS,
RIGHT ABOUT
FACE, QUICK
MARCH.

It then retires 15 paces beyond the left, and
is halted and fronted. The left wing then
proceeds in the same way, and each in like
manner alternately; the "READY, P'SENT" of
the advanced wing instantly succeeding the
"HALT, FRONT" of the retiring wing.

S. 12.—*A Battalion formed in Line may have to move to attack, or to pass a Bridge, or short Defilé to the Front, from either Flank, or from the Centre.*

1.—*If from a Flank.*

ADVANCE IN OPEN COLUMN OF COMPANIES FROM THE RIGHT. The covering serjeant of the right company, passing by the front, gives a point for the advance six paces in front of, and facing towards, the left of his division.

The right aid gives another point 20 paces beyond and covering the first.

The lieutenant on the left of the line drops back.

**RIGHT DIVISION TO THE FRONT.
REMAINING DIVISIONS, LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD.**

The rear rank of the line locks up.

QUICK MARCH. The right division steps off at paces of 21 inches, its commander changing to the left flank of it by the rear.

The supernumeraries of the company make a corresponding change.

All the other divisions bring left shoulders forward. Their commanders turn inwards, and, superintending the wheel, step back along the front to where the left flanks will be when the companies have wheeled into column.

Covering serjeants at the same time change flanks by the rear.

Supernumeraries also change during the wheel.

The colours wheel as a division, and move to their place in the column, by the commands *Left, Half-turn*, and *Front turn*, when they have arrived there.

FORWARD.

When companies have completed the quarter-circle, this command is given; and the 2nd division at the same instant commences the second wheel, receiving from its own leader the order—

Right Shoulders Forward.

When it does so, the word *Forward* will be given to the leading division (the covering serjeant of which, as it passed him, took his place in the rear) by its commander, and it will then step at the regular pace of 30 inches.

The different companies, as they arrive on the ground where the second wheel is to be performed will receive the commands *Right Shoulders Forward*, and when square, *Forward*.

It may be repeated, that in all these wheels on the *moveable* pivot, pivot men must not forget to gain a little ground, in order to leave the wheeling point clear for the next division as it comes up, and thus prevent loss of distance.

If the advance is from the left, division leaders will not change, as **RIGHT** will be the pivot flank when in column. The colours will move to their place in the same manner, receiving the commands "*Right*," instead of "*Left, Half-turn*."

Whether the advance is from the right or left, the senior major places himself in rear of the pivot flank of the right or left company, and sees that the advance is correctly made. Other mounted officers move on the reverse flanks of those divisions in rear of which they were posted when in line.

The advance may be made on the same principle in column of subdivisions (or sections); and if it be from the left, division leaders and covering serjeants will wheel into column, with what were the pivot sections (or subdivisions) in line, and change in double time to the leading

ones, on the command **FORWARD**. If the advance is in column of sections, the commanders of the leading sections of companies only, will order "*Shoulders Forward*." The other sections will follow, and conform to the wheel *without word of command*.

Columns thus formed on a flank are equally applicable with central column to the purposes of attack, but are generally *preferable* for the passage of defilés, as the front of a single column can always be diminished to the smallest degree of reduction, according to the width of the defilé; whereas a double column is not susceptible of a similar reduction of front, without being liable to confusion. These objections, however, do not exist where the defilé affords room for the double-column formation, and where the debouché can be made in a direct line from the centre.

2.—*When the Column arrives near the point where the Line is to be re-formed.*

FORM LINE ON THE LEADING DIVISION. Divisions leaders change flanks, and by the *rear*, because the column is in motion.

The adjutant and left aid (presuming right to be in front) proceed towards where the left of the line will rest, ready to mark the distant point the instant the leading division is halted.

REMAINING DIVISIONS, RIGHT SHOULDERS FORWARD, FORWARD. All but the leading division (which marches steadily on) wheel as directed; and when companies have wheeled one-eighth of the circle, or, in other words, half as many paces as they have files, the commanding officer will order **FORWARD**, and they will march to the front they have acquired, by wheeling into echelon; division leaders being on the inward, and covering serjeants (aligned with the front rank) on the outward flanks.

Halt, Dress. The leading division, the instant the word **Eyes Front.** **FORWARD** is given, receives from its leader the commands *Halt, Dress*, and its covering and

senior supernumerary serjeants place themselves close in front of the 2nd files from either flank, facing towards the flank of appui (the right); and the right aid, facing towards them, gives the base point six paces from the right flank.

The senior major takes post there, to correct, if necessary, the distant point, and also the covering of serjeants, as they successively take up the distance for their companies.

As the *inward* flanks of the divisions marching in echelon successively arrive within 20 paces of the alignment, covering serjeants run out to take up their distance and covering in the line—which they do, facing towards the flank of appui.

Each division leader, as he reaches the outer shoulder of the rear-rank man on the flank of the company which preceded his into line, will order *Left Shoulders Forward*; and when the division shall have wheeled up exactly parallel to the intended line, with its front rank on a line with the rear rank of the formed company, he will command *Halt*. Then, stepping to the front, he will add the words *Dress up*, and slip round the covering serjeant in front of the company on his right, from which place he is to dress his men, always taking care that his covering serjeant's inward shoulder is kept clear.

The right-hand man in the rear rank of each company will step up and preserve his leader's place in the line, while he dresses the the division; and the men, in dressing, must remember to look towards the flank of appui, or that from which their commander is to dress them.

Eyes Front. The division leader takes his place in the line, and the rear-rank man steps back.

Each covering serjeant falls to the rear

when the 3rd company on his outward flank has received the command *Eyes Front*.

When the line is dressed, the other points fall away, on a signal from the senior major.

The serjeant-major dresses the supernumerary rank from the right.

If the column is left in front, line is formed on the same principles. The left aid marks the point of appui six paces from the left of the leading division, and at that place the senior major takes post. The adjutant and the right aid give the distant point. *Each* division is dressed from the *left*; and commanders, after giving the words *Eyes Front*, return to the right of their companies by the rear, their places there being preserved (as before) by their rear-rank right-hand men.

File firing should be practised in the formation to line after an advance from either flank. The division upon which the formation is made will commence the fire while the others are in movement, and the latter will take it up successively as they are formed in line; but the *outer* section of each division must reserve its fire until the commander of the next company, after dressing his men, has ordered *Eyes Front*, and taken his place in the line.

As expedition is the first object, the bringing shoulders forward on the march, in the manner above explained, may be adopted, when not liable to be attacked during the formation, or when the companies of a battalion are of equal strength: but *strictly speaking*, in order to conduct the formation to line upon the principle of mathematical precision, the column should be halted, and divisions wheeled backwards into echelon upon their halted pivots, in order that the leading flanks may stand precisely perpendicular to the direction in which they are to form (see SECTION 35); and also in order that the echelon, if attacked, may be able to wheel back into line (see the last clause of SECTION 32).

If line is to be re-formed on any other than the leading division, only those commanders whose companies are in *rear* of the named one, change flanks upon the caution.

3.—*If the Advance is from the Centre.*

ADVANCE IN The colours and centre serjeants step back
DOUBLE two paces.
COLUMN OF Commanders of the right wing, and their
SUBDIVISIONS, coverers, place themselves in rear of the right
FROM THE files of their left sub-divisions.
CENTRE.

The leader of the left centre company takes post in rear of the left file of its right sub-division. His covering serjeant gives a point for the advance, six paces in front of the outward flank of that sub-division, and his leader, when the double column steps off, marches upon him.

The left centre aid gives a second point 20 paces beyond the covering serjeant.

The senior major takes post in rear of the outward flank of the pivot sub-division, to see that the advance is correct, and that sub-divisions do not commence the second wheel before the order is given.

TWO CENTRE
SUB-DIVISIONS
TO THE FRONT.
REMAINING
SUB-DIVISIONS,
RIGHT AND
LEFT SHOUL-
DERS FORWARD.

The rear rank of the line locks up.

QUICK MARCH.

The two centre sub-divisions step off at paces of 21 inches, the reverse sub-division obliquing to the left until it has closed the space vacated by the colours.

The colours also oblique to the left until in rear of the centre of those two sub-divisions.

The other sub-divisions of the right wing bring right shoulders forward, and senior subalterns move to the right of their rear sub-divisions, those being the ones which on the word **FORWARD** they will have to command.

Sub-divisions of the left wing bring left shoulders forward, and the commanders of that wing turn towards their men and step back along the front to where the left of their leading sub-divisions will be when they have wheeled into column.

Covering serjeants at the same time move to their places in the column by the rear.

Senior subalterns of the left wing wheel with the rear sub-divisions ready to take post on their outward flanks on the word **FORWARD**, so that each sub-division will then have an officer on its outward flank; viz., commanders on the outward flanks of the leading, and senior subalterns on the outward flanks of the rear, sub-divisions of companies.

If there is only one more subaltern with each company, he will be in rear of the 2nd file from the reverse flank of the rear sub-division; but if, instead of one more, there are two more, the senior of the two will occupy that place, and the junior will be similarly posted with the leading sub-division.

FORWARD. As soon as sub-divisions have wheeled the quarter circle into column, this command is given, and the sub-divisions which follow the two centre ones will then commence their second wheel, receiving from their respective leaders the commands—

Right (Left) Those sub-divisions wheel as directed, and
Shoulders the two centre sub-divisions receive, as the
Forward, wheel is commenced, the word "*Forward,*" from
Forward. the officer on the left, who being with the pivot sub-division, gives the command to both, which then advance at the usual pace of 30 inches.

The other sub-divisions, as they arrive on the ground where the second wheel is to be performed, bring shoulders forward, by command

of their respective leaders, and when the sub-divisions of the right wing have joined those of the left, the officers of the left wing only will give the word *Forward*; and to ensure the men touching to the left, which is the pivot flank of all double columns, unless ordered to the contrary, the words "*By the Left*" should be added.

When the double column is formed, the senior major will remain steady until satisfied that the advance is correct.

In thus forming double column, care should be taken, as before mentioned, that the different sub-divisions do not commence the second wheel too soon. Their doing so is a fault often made, therefore attention should be given by the mounted officers to prevent the mistake, and to have the wheels made angular.

Mounted officers move on the reverse flanks of the column when it is formed.

Double columns, unless ordered to the contrary, will be formed at the distance of the divisions of which each column is composed, and they may be formed from the halt in line, upon any two centre divisions, like any other columns (*See SECTION 22*). In this case, the serjeants, who take up points for the reverse sub-divisions, will regulate themselves by those who do so for the pivot sub-divisions.

It has already been stated that for many reasons the single column is preferable to the double one for the passage of defilés; but it may be added, on the other hand, that the double column possesses, for other purposes, many advantages over the single column. It is obvious that, for the purpose of attack, a force can, by means of the double-column formation more readily—viz., in half the time, be brought to bear upon a given object, than by an advance in column from a flank. Each method has its peculiar merits, and the employment of the one in preference to the other must necessarily depend upon the ground and circumstances, and can only be determined by the commander on the spot.

4.—*When the Double Column arrives near the Point where the Line is to be re-formed.*

FORM LINE ON THE TWO CENTRE SUB-DIVISIONS. The junior major, with the left aid, proceeds towards where the left of the line will rest ; and the adjutant, with the right aid, to where the right of the line will rest, each ready, when the two centre sub-divisions are halted, to give points six paces beyond where the flanks of the line will be.

The two centre sub-divisions oblique outwards, to allow the colours to move up into line.

REMAINING SUB-DIVISIONS RIGHT AND LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD. } Sub-divisions wheel as ordered, their leaders change by the *rear*, and take post on the wheeling or inward flanks.

FORWARD. When the sub-divisions have wheeled the eighth of the circle into echelon, the commanding officer will give the word **FORWARD**, on which covering serjeants take post on the outward flanks of the leading sub-divisions of companies aligned with the front ranks.

Halt, Dress. The two centre sub-divisions, the instant the word **FORWARD** is given, receive from the commander of the left centre company the words *Halt, Dress*, on which the front-rank centre serjeant steps to the front, faces to the left, and thus marks the point of appui, at which the senior major takes post.

The leaders of the two centre companies, stepping through the interval left by him, before it is filled up by the rear-rank centre serjeant, place themselves, he of the right centre company in front, and he of the left centre company in rear of that front-rank

centre serjeant, to dress their companies as their outward sub-divisions are brought up into line.

The covering serjeants of the two centre companies also run out as the words *Halt, Dress* are given to the two centre sub-divisions, and, facing to the centre, mark where the out-flanks of their companies will rest.

Other covering serjeants run out to take up the distance for their COMPANIES, when the *inward* flanks of leading sub-divisions are 20 paces from the alignment. In giving these points, covering serjeants always face to the point of appui, in this case the centre.

Each sub-division leader, as he reaches the outer shoulder of the rear-rank man of the sub-division which preceded his into line, will order *Right (Left) Shoulders Forward*; and if a subaltern, fall to the rear, and order—or if a commander, step to the front, and order, as the wheel is completed, *Halt, Dress up*; and dress his company from the 2nd file of the division on his *inward* flank.

It is stated again, and for the last time, that while division leaders are dressing their companies, their places in the line are to be preserved for them by their rear-rank right-hand men, who step up for that purpose, when the words *Halt, Dress* (or *Dress up*) are given.

Eyes Front. Commanders of the right wing, after dressing their companies, return to their places in the line by the rear.

The serjeant-major dresses the supernumerary rank from the centre.

When the line is dressed, the major will give a concerted signal, on which serjeants fall to the rear. He then moves to his post

4.—*When the Double Column arrives near the Point where the Line is to be re-formed.*

FORM LINE ON THE TWO CENTRE SUB-DIVISIONS. The junior major, with the left aid, proceeds towards where the left of the line will rest; and the adjutant, with the right aid, to where the right of the line will rest, each ready, when the two centre sub-divisions are halted, to give points six paces beyond where the flanks of the line will be.

The two centre sub-divisions oblique outwards, to allow the colours to move up into line.

REMAINING SUB-DIVISIONS RIGHT AND LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD.

Sub-divisions wheel as ordered, their leaders change by the *rear*, and take post on the wheeling or inward flanks.

FORWARD.

When the sub-divisions have wheeled the eighth of the circle into echelon, the commanding officer will give the word **FORWARD**, on which covering serjeants take post on the outward flanks of the leading sub-divisions of companies aligned with the front ranks.

Halt, Dress.

The two centre sub-divisions, the instant the word **FORWARD** is given, receive from the commander of the left centre company the words *Halt, Dress*, on which the front-rank centre serjeant steps to the front, faces to the left, and thus marks the point of appui, at which the senior major takes post.

The leaders of the two centre companies, stepping through the interval left by him, before it is filled up by the rear-rank centre serjeant, place themselves, he of the right centre company in front, and he of the left centre company in rear of that front-rank

centre serjeant, to dress their companies as their outward sub-divisions are brought up into line.

The covering serjeants of the two centre companies also run out as the words *Halt, Dress* are given to the two centre sub-divisions, and, facing to the centre, mark where the out-flanks of their companies will rest.

Other covering serjeants run out to take up the distance for their COMPANIES, when the *inward* flanks of leading sub-divisions are 20 paces from the alignment. In giving these points, covering serjeants always face to the point of appui, in this case the centre.

Each sub-division leader, as he reaches the outer shoulder of the rear-rank man of the sub-division which preceded his into line, will order *Right (Left) Shoulders Forward*; and if a subaltern, fall to the rear, and order—or if a commander, step to the front, and order, as the wheel is completed, *Halt, Dress up*; and dress his company from the 2nd file of the division on his *inward* flank.

*Right (Left)
Shoulders
Forward.*

*Halt,
Dress up.*

It is stated again, and for the last time, that while division leaders are dressing their companies, their places in the line are to be preserved for them by their rear-rank right-hand men, who step up for that purpose, when the words *Halt, Dress* (or *Dress up*) are given.

Eyes Front. Commanders of the right wing, after dressing their companies, return to their places in the line by the rear.

The serjeant-major dresses the supernumerary rank from the centre.

When the line is dressed, the major will give a concerted signal, on which serjeants fall to the rear. He then moves to his post

in the line, by ordering files on the left of the right centre company to give way for that purpose.

During the formation of line from double column, file firing should be practised from centre to flanks. In this case the outward sections of companies should reserve their fire until the company next each on its outward flank has received the command *Eyes Front*.

When line is formed from the halt, the echelon formation will be conducted as laid down in SECTION 35.

In this case, sub-division leaders change flanks by the *front* upon the caution, the two centre sub-divisions close outwards, each four paces, to allow the colours to move up into line; the front-rank centre serjeant then steps to the front, and the covering serjeants of the two centre companies take up their points.

The double column may also close to close or quarter distance, and deploy. (*See SECTIONS 22 and 28.*)

5.—*If after having gained the desired Point to the Front, it be required to form Line to the Right, from Double Column.*

In case sub-divisions should be of unequal strength, it will be necessary (as they are touching to the left) to order BY THE RIGHT, that the pivots may accurately cover. As soon as this is accomplished, the commander of the battalion will order—

FORM LINE TO THE RIGHT. The adjutant, with the left aid, will hasten to where the left of the line will rest.

RIGHT WING, The senior major, and the right aid, mark the point of appui six paces in rear of the right flank of the rear sub-division of the column.
LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD.

Commanders of the right wing (being with their leading sub-divisions) turn inwards, and superintending the wheel as it goes on, proceed to the right of their rear sub-divisions, (which, when in line, will be the right flanks of com-

panies,) ready to *halt, dress* from the flanks nearest that of appui.

Leaders of the rear sub-divisions of companies in the right wing, drop to rear, and pass to their places in the line.

Covering serjeants of the right wing run quickly out, and having taken up the distance for their companies, face towards the right of the line, and cover.

Sub-division leaders and covering serjeants of the left wing change to the *inward* flanks of their sub-divisions by the rear.

Halt, Dress. Commanders of the right wing give this order to their companies as both sub-divisions

Eyes Front. wheel up, and having ordered *Eyes Front*, take their places in the line.

Sub-divisions of the left wing advance *straight to the front*, and the leaders on their inward flanks must carefully avoid inclining towards the base. The wheels must not be commenced before the word; and if these rules be attended to, the wheels will be, as they should be, angular.

When the leading sub-divisions of companies in the left wing arrive within 20 paces of the alignment, covering serjeants will run out, and take up the distance for their COMPANIES, and as each sub-division arrives parrallel with the outward flank of that last formed, it will receive from its leader the commands—

Left Shoulders Forward. and when square—

Forward. When within one pace of the line, its leader, if a subaltern, will fall to the rear, and order—if a commander, he will step nimbly up, and order—

Halt, Dress up. and proceed to dress his company, as already explained.

The serjeant-major dresses the supernumerary rank from the right.

The colours wheel as a division.

While thus forming line to the right, firing may be practised by companies from right to left, or it may be practised by files from the right of companies.

On the same principle, line may be formed to the left. When the left wing brings right shoulders forward, commanders turn inwards, and pass to the left flanks of their companies to halt and dress them; and having done so, they return to their posts on the right, by the rear.

If the double column is halted, the divisions of one wing may wheel into line, while the other wing advances, and forms up successively by sub-divisions.

The double column may, if required, change its front to the rear, by the wheel and countermarch of its wings, by sub-divisions round the centre, as described hereafter for a single column. (See SECTION 26.) But it must be remarked, that changes of front to the rear are rarely required on service; and when such necessity actually does occur, the simplest and readiest mode of fronting to the rear is by *facing to the right about*.

It will have appeared by the foregoing explanation of moving off from line in column by the *shoulders forward*, whether from a flank or from the centre, that the leading division must in such cases step at shortened paces until the division next following commences its second wheel. Then, on the word *Forward* from its own leader it will step at the usual length of pace. If this be not attended to, loss of distance between the 1st and 2nd divisions will be the consequence.

S. 13.—*A Battalion formed in Line may have to retire over a Bridge or short Defilé, or to retreat from a Flank, or from both Flanks in rear of the Centre.*

1.—*If from a Flank.*

RETIRE BY
COMPANIES
FROM THE
RIGHT FLANK
IN REAR
OF THE LEFT.

The supernumerary rank in this *and all other movements along the rear* closes up two paces on the caution.

The left aid places himself at three paces more than company distance from the inward flank of the left company, and, facing to the right, marks the point where divisions will perform their second wheel.

*Right
about Face—
Quick March.*

This command is given to the right company by its leader, on the order to retire.

After facing about, the proper front rank locks up; and when the company has retired three paces, its leader (who, followed by his covering serjeant, changes flanks) orders—

Left Shoulders Forward. and takes post on the flank nearest the line, aligned with the *proper* rear rank.

His covering serjeant is in the *proper* rear of the 2nd file from the flank on which his leader is marching.

Forward.

The company having completed the quarter circle, receives this command, and marches along the rear. The next company is faced about, ready to retire, as soon as the word

Forward is given to the one already in motion, and the word *Quick March* is given three paces before its inward flank is cleared by the first company. It then proceeds in manner already laid down.

Thus the divisions face about, march off and wheel (rear rank in front); and as they successively arrive at the point where the second wheel is to be performed, they receive the command.

Right Shoulders Forward. Their leaders change by the *then* rear to the proper pivot flank. Covering serjeants change during the wheel by the *proper* rear.

Forward. As companies complete the second wheel they receive this command.

Right about Face. The company in rear of which the others are to retire, is *faced about* when the one which immediately precedes it commences the second *Quick March*. wheel, and it is marched off when that company, having completed the wheel, receives the word *Forward*.

If the retreat is to be by sub-divisions, the senior sub-altern of each company will lead that sub-division which retires first, taking command of it as soon as it has been faced about, and marched off by the commander of the company.

If the retreat is from the *left* flank instead of from the right, the second wheeling point will be given by the right aid at three paces more than company (or sub-division, as the case may be) distance from the inward flank of the right company, (or sub-division,) facing towards the left.

In this case the officer in command of the company in rear of which the others retire, changes to the pivot flank of the column after facing his men about.

Whether the retreat is from the right or left, the colours act as a division, but do not shift to the *proper* pivot flank

of the division which precedes them, until the leader of it, having ordered the second wheel, changes flanks as above explained.

2.—*If the Retreat is from both Flanks.*

RETIRE
FROM BOTH
FLANKS BY
SUBDIVISIONS
IN REAR OF
THE CENTRE.

The supernumerary rank closes up two paces.

The left centre aid takes post at three paces more than sub-division distance from the outward flank of the right sub-division of the left centre company, and then faces to the left; and thus gives a point at which the sub-divisions of the LEFT wing will perform their second wheel.

The right centre aid, at the same distance in rear of 3rd file from the outward flank of the left sub-division of the right centre company, facing to the right, marks where the sub-divisions of the RIGHT wing will perform the second wheel.

Right (Left) Sub-division—Right about Face. These commands are given to the outward sub-divisions of the two flank companies by their respective commanders. As soon as they have faced about, the proper front ranks lock up.

Quick March. The subdivisions march off, and at the third pace receive from the subalterns, who then take command, the order—

Right (Left) Shoulders Forward. and when the quarter circle is wheeled—

Forward. The subalterns take post on the flanks nearest the line, aligned with the proper rear ranks. The sub-divisions march along the

rear, and those next to follow are faced about by the commanders of companies as soon as the word *Forward* is given to the sub-divisions already in motion. The command *Quick March* is given to each, three paces before its inward flank is cleared by the first sub-division. It then follows as already laid down.

Right (Left) Shoulders Forward. As the sub-divisions successively arrive at the wheeling points in rear of the centre, they receive the command "— *Shoulders Forward*" from their leaders, who change by the *then* rear to their outward flanks.

Forward. This command is given to both sub-divisions by the leaders of the left wing when their subdivisions, after wheeling the quarter circle, join those of the right wing.

Right about Face. The two centre sub-divisions and the colours are faced about by the commander of the left centre company, when the sub-divisions retiring immediately before them have commenced their second wheel.

The colours, after facing about, take two paces to the *proper rear*, and the proper front ranks of the two centre sub-divisions lock up.

Quick March. The two centre sub-divisions receive this command, when the sub-divisions, retiring before them, having completed the second wheel, receive the word *Forward*. The reverse sub-division of the two (*viz.* the left sub-division of the right, centre company) obliques to the right or directing flank, until the space left by the colours is filled up, and the two sub-divisions join each other.

Whether the retreat is from one flank or from both, it should, when in actual contact with an enemy, be covered

by file firing from those divisions which yet remain in line; and this firing should be kept up till the last moment, the men whose pieces are discharged, loading while on the march, and shouldering independently. If the retreat is over a bridge, or through a defilé, with the intention of reforming on the other side, the retreat of those who retire last should be covered by the fire of the divisions that first cross over; and these, for this purpose, should instantly re-assume the line formation.

It must be remembered that in *retiring*, the divisions which first cross over, must move to the flank, so as to clear the troops on the opposite side; while in *advancing*, those which first pass must take post at the bridge-head, or outlet of the defilé, until the rest have passed, or until ordered to advance by the commander of the whole.

In retiring as above explained, whether from one flank in rear of the other, or from both flanks in rear of the centre, a loss of distance will take place. This must be corrected as soon as the whole battalion is in column, either by the leading division stepping short or marking time, and the others in succession, as their proper distances are gained, until the word **FORWARD** is given; or without marking time, by the leading division moving on, and the remainder recovering their distance by the double march, as circumstances may require.

The retreat may be conducted *without loss of distance*, by facing each division inwards, and filing along the rear of the line.

In this case, the three leading files of companies, after facing, will disengage to the rear, and the division leaders (passing by the front, if the retreat is from the right flank in rear of the left) will take post on the inward flanks of their leading files, while their covering serjeants, passing by the rear, take post in front of the front-rank men of those files.

When the head of each division in succession, reaches the inward flank of the company in rear of which it is to retire, its leader will halt, and as the rear file reaches him, he will order *Rear Turn*, and take post on the pivot flank.

His covering serjeant, passing by the *then* rear, will take post in the *proper* rear of the 2nd file from that flank.

Sometimes, from want of space or other causes, the retreat cannot be effected by the *wheel* of divisions, when, of necessity, it must be done by filing along the rear in the manner just explained, if indeed that method is not at all times preferable.

S. 14.—*When a Battalion formed in Line is successively to march off in Column of Divisions to a Flank.*

If the Movement is along the Rear and from the Right Flank.

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>THE BATTALION WILL MOVE IN COLUMN OF DIVISIONS FROM THE RIGHT ALONG THE REAR.</p> | } | <p>The supernumerary rank closes up two paces.</p> |
|--|---|--|

Left Face. The commander of the right company orders *Left Face*, and changes by the *front* to the left of it.

His covering serjeant changes by the rear, ready to lead the division out in file.

The company faces as ordered, and the three leading files disengage to the rear by the side step.

Left Wheel, Quick March. The company files out, its leader halts three paces in rear of the line, and, as the last file reaches him, he orders—

Front Turn. and takes post on the inward flank.

His covering serjeant, passing by the rear in double time, covers the second file from that flank.

Each company in succession is faced to the left, when the one immediately preceding it receives the command *Front Turn*, and it is marched off three paces before its flank is cleared.

The colours act as a division.

When the whole battalion is in column, the commanding officer will order **CHANGE YOUR FLANKS**, on which division leaders, followed by their covering serjeants, do so by the rear. The supernumeraries and colours also change, the latter receiving the commands *Left, Half Turn, Double*, and when at their place *Front Turn—Quick*.

If the movement is from the left, divisions face and wheel to the right, and supernumeraries change while their divisions file out.

The march may similarly be performed in column of sub-divisions or sections.

S. 15.—*When the Battalion halted in Line, is to form Square on any named Company, or on the two Centre Subdivisions.*

1.—*If on a Central Company.*

Column at quarter distance will be first formed from line on any named company. (*See SECTION 22.*) The commander of the battalion will then order—

FORM SQUARE. The rear ranks of all divisions but the leading one, lock up.

QUICK MARCH. The divisions in rear of the leading one step off, and the colours oblique inwards, so as to be able to wheel up without impeding the sections of the company in their rear.

When the second company has closed to the front, it will halt without order to do so, and the commander of the battalion will *instantly* give the word

**SECTIONS
OUTWARDS.**

Thereupon, all who are to be inside the square will hasten there, and the remaining companies (except the two rear ones) wheel outwards by sections. The rear sections close to the front, and halt without further order.

The colours wheel up in rear of the 3rd section of the right centre company if the column is right in front, and in rear of the 2nd section of the left centre company if it is left in front.

*Halt, Right
about Face.*

The two rear companies close up and form the rear face of the square, receiving from their leaders, as they respectively march up, the words *Halt, Right about Face.*

The men at the four angles make a half-face outwards, so as to make the angles as strong as possible, for they are the weakest points of the square, and against them is the charge of cavalry more especially directed.

Square may be thus formed on any company of the battalion.

The same steadiness and attention are required from officers inside as outside the square. A careless and inattentive manner on their parts is likely to cause many mistakes, that otherwise might not, or more probably would not, occur. Every one should be in rear of that face formed by the division to which he belongs, minutely watching his men. There is always plenty to correct. The file firing is run down too quick, (a general fault,) and this is principally owing to the men bringing their firelocks up with a jerk, and pulling regardless of the level, instead of raising them steadily, singling out some particular object, and firing only when they have covered it. In short, the men frequently present their pieces as though their whole duty consisted in loading and firing, regardless of any effect it might have in thinning the enemy's ranks, and throwing them into confusion. This, and other irregularities, such as loading as front ranks instead of as rear ranks, and the like, very probably would not be committed, if the men knew that their officers were closely, though silently, observing them.

2.—If on a Flank Company, and to a Flank.

SQUARE
ON THE RIGHT
COMPANY.
COMPANIES
LEFT
SHOULDERS
FORWARD.

The rear rank locks up.

QUICK MARCH. Companies wheel into column right in front,

but their commanders do not change flanks as the column is to form square.

FORWARD. When the quarter circle is wheeled, this command is given, and the leading company then receives from its leader, the words

Halt, Dress. The second company closes upon the first, and receives the same command.

The officers and supernumeraries of those two companies then take their places in rear of them.

Sections Outwards. The other companies (except the two rear ones) wheel outwards by sections, on this command from their respective leaders, as they successively arrive at quarter distance.

Halt, Right about Face. When the last company, which will wheel outwards by sections, does so, the leaders and supernumeraries of the two rear divisions get inside the square, from which place, as those divisions march up, the commands *Halt, Right about Face*, are given to them.

Square on the left flank company is formed in a similar manner.

In these formations of square, the mounted officers and serjeant-major will, *for the purpose of instruction*, remain outside, and take post at the several angles, and particularly notice that the different faces of the square are correctly dressed. The front and the rear faces dressing from the centre; the right face by the left, and the left face by the right.

3.—*When the Square is to resist Cavalry.*

PREPARE FOR CAVALRY. The caution will be given, and upon the word **READY** the two front ranks all round the square (supposing it to be four deep) will come

to the kneeling position, slanting their firelocks forward, with the locks upwards, and resting the butts upon the ground in front of the right knees, and the lower part of the left arms resting on the left thighs. The front rank will kneel as a front rank, the second rank as a rear rank.

At the same time, the standing ranks will bring their firelocks to the right side, and make ready as rear ranks, except that the first of those standing ranks will carry their right feet off six inches only, instead of 10 inches, as the other rank will do.

FILE FIRING FROM THE RIGHT OF FACES. COMMENCE. On this command, or at the last flam of the drum, file firing will commence from the right of faces, or from such of them as may be ordered; and it cannot be too often repeated, that it must be conducted slowly and deliberately, so as to thin the enemy's ranks.

CEASE FIRING. Not a shot must be fired after this order, or after signal from drum to cease firing. Those who have loaded will half-cock and shoulder: those who have not loaded will load, prime, and shoulder independently.

KNEELING RANKS WILL FIRE A VOLLEY. READY. The kneeling ranks will make ready on this order from the commanding officer, either by faces or the whole at once, as may be directed.

P'SENT. The men will come steadily up to the P'sent, looking in the meanwhile towards the objects they are going to fire at. After firing, the firelocks are, with a quick motion, to be brought again to the posture of defence in front of the knee, and all will remain perfectly steady till the word—

LOAD. The kneeling ranks come to the standing position, and load as *front ranks*. Allowing one pause of slow time after the ramrods are returned, they cast about together, prime, and then shoulder by word of command.

SHOULDER ARMS.

4.—*To reduce the Square.*

RE-FORM COLUMN. The covering serjeants of the leading and rear divisions slip through and mark where the pivot flanks of their companies will rest.

The rear sections of the two side faces of the square step back to wheeling distance, and the pivot men of those and the front sections (*viz.*, the front-rank left-hand men of sections of the left face, and the front-rank right-hand men of sections of the right face) face to the proper front.

The colours step back with that section in rear of which they stood in the square.

The men at the four angles of the square, who half-faced outwards, make a half-face inwards, and the rear ranks of the front and two rear companies lock up.

QUICK MARCH. The senior major takes post (or if inside the square, he does so as soon as he is clear of it) at the place marked by the covering serjeant as where the pivot flank of the leading division will rest. If necessary, he will correct the covering of the column when it is re-formed.

Division leaders and supernumeraries move quickly to their places, and the former give their whole attention to the covering.

Halt, Dress. The sections of the side faces wheel back, and receive from their respective leaders the commands *Halt, Dress*, on completion of the wheel.

Halt, (Front) Dress. The leading company, and the two rear ones of the square, march off and receive respect-

ively, when they have taken up the quarter distance, the commands *Halt, Dress*, and *Halt, Front, Dress*.

Line may be re-formed from square by deployment, (*see* SECTION 28,) having previously wheeled the column, if square has been formed to a flank (*see* SECTION 25).

As a general rule, it may be considered that the square from quarter-distance column is the simplest and best that a battalion can form.

5.—*If the Square is to be formed on the Two Centre Sub-divisions.*

ON THE TWO CENTRE SUB-DIVISIONS FORM SQUARE. The colours, centre serjeants, and the commander of the left centre company and his covering serjeant, step back four paces.

Commanders of the right wing, and their coverers, pass by the rear to the inward flanks of their companies, except the commander and covering serjeant of the right centre company, who merely move to the inward flank of the outward sub-division of that company.

The covering serjeants of the two flank companies will mark the rear angles of the square, both facing to the proper front, and allowing sufficient space between themselves and the front face of the square, for the side faces, and the sub-divisions which will form the rear face, as those sub-divisions file in *front* of the serjeants so marking the rear angles.

The outward sub-divisions of the two centre companies face inwards, and disengage to the rear.

The two flank companies face inwards, and disengage to the rear by sub-divisions.

All the rest, except the two centre sub-divisions, (which stand fast,) face right about.

N.B.—Disengaging to the front or rear, which has already been several times alluded to, is done by the three leading files taking a side step to the left or right, as the case may be.

RIGHT
AND LEFT } The proper front ranks of the companies
SHOULDERS } which faced about lock up.
FORWARD.

QUICK
(OR DOUBLE)
MARCH. } The two centre sub-divisions close the interval between them by the side step, and receive, when they have done so, the word *Halt*, from the commander of the left centre company.

Halt, Front, Dress. } The outward sub-divisions of the two centre companies file in rear of the two centre sub-divisions; that of the left centre company being led by its senior subaltern, and that of the right centre company by its commander, each of whom gives to his sub-division the commands *Halt, Front, Dress*, when they meet in the centre; and those sub-divisions dress from the centre.

Forward. } The companies which faced about bring their *outward* shoulders forward by sections, and when they have wheeled sufficiently, receive from the officer, with the leading section of each sub-division, the word *Forward*. Thus they march into square.

Halt, Front, Dress. } When the leading section of each sub-division is three paces within the flanks of the front face of the square, the officer with such leading section gives to it and the section in his rear the commands *Halt, Front, Dress*. The section which was the leading one, having fronted, closes upon the section now in front of it.

Halt, Right (Left) Face. The rear face is formed by the sub-divisions of the two flank companies conducted in file by their respective leaders, who, when at their places, order *Halt, Right (Left) Face*, and the sub-divisions touch to, and dress by, the centre.

It should be observed that the outward sub-divisions of the two flank companies form the *front* ranks of the rear face.

The two serjeants get inside the square as soon as the rear face is formed. If unable to do so, they must lie down under the bayonets of the kneeling ranks, where they will be equally protected.

If the mounted officers and serjeant-major do not move into the square, but for the purpose of instruction remain outside, they will place themselves at the several angles, the senior major taking the angle of the pivot sub-division of the front face.

In this manner any wing of a battalion, consisting of eight or ten sub-divisions, may form square upon the two centre sections.

If the line is already retiring, when square on the two centre sub-divisions is ordered, those sub-divisions will, as soon as the order is given, halt, front, and close inwards by the side step, without further word of command. The colours, and the commander and covering serjeant of the left centre company, will march on four paces, halt, and front. The outward sub-divisions of the two centre companies turn inwards, the two flank companies do the same, and all the other companies bring their outward shoulders forward by sections.

The formation will then proceed as already laid down, but at the **DOUBLE** march.

6.—*Reduce the Square and form Line.*

RE-FORM LINE. The front-rank centre serjeant, passing through, places himself in front of the centre

of the two leading sub-divisions, and faces to the left.

The covering serjeants of the two centre companies pass through, and (each facing towards the centre) mark where the outward flanks of those companies will rest.

The junior major places the left aid six paces beyond where the left of the line will be, and the adjutant places the right aid six paces beyond where the right of the line will be. Each of these two distant points is corrected, if necessary, by the senior major from the centre.

The rear sub-divisions of the front face, and the four sub-divisions of the rear face, face outwards.

The rear ranks of the sections of the side faces lock up.

QUICK,
OR DOUBLE
MARCH.

The two centre sub-divisions close outwards four paces, and halt without word of command. Then the right-hand rear-rank man of the left centre company steps up to preserve his leader's place.

The colours and centre serjeants take four paces to the front, and thus arrive at their place in the line.

The commander of the left centre company places himself in *rear* of the front-rank centre serjeant, who gives the base point, and the commander of the right centre company in *front* of him, each ready to dress his division.

Halt, Front
Dress up.

The outward sub-divisions of the two centre companies having filed out sufficiently, receive from their senior subalterns (who are in rear of the outward flanks of the two centre sub-divisions) the commands *Halt, Front, Dress up*. The subalterns then move to their places in the line.

The rear sections of the side faces, commanded by the junior subalterns, mark time until they have acquired wheeling distance from the sections in their front (which are commanded by captains and senior subalterns). Then, taking up the march, they follow on until the commander of the leading section of each sub-division in turn arrives parallel with the outward flank of the division which preceded his into line. He then halts, and as the rear section reaches him orders—

Right (Left) Both sections wheel up together, (he who
Shoulders commanded the rear one, falling back and
Forward. taking up his place in the supernumerary
 rank) and receive, on completion of the wheel,
Forward. the word *Forward*. The officer in command
 being on the inward flank of his sub-division,
 conducts it into line, adding *By the Left, or*
Right, (as the case may be,) as a caution
 to the men to keep the touch to the inward
 flank. When within one pace of the align-
 ment, (*two* if marching in double time,) he
Halt, orders *Halt, Dress up,* and if a company
Dress up. leader, dresses his division from the 2nd
 file of the division on his inward flank: if a
 subaltern, he moves to his place in the rear.

Each covering serjeant runs out to take up the distance for his company, when the sub-division with which he is marching arrives within 20 paces of the alignment.

Front Turn. The sub-divisions of the two flank companies (the inward sub-division of each being led by its covering serjeant) file out, and the leader of each in turn halts when in line with the outward flank of the division last formed before. His sub-division marches on, and as the last file reaches him, he orders *Front Turn*, and conducts it into line.

Eyes Front. After dressing their companies, and ordering *Eyes Front*, commanders resume their places in the line; if of the right wing, passing thither by the rear.

The centre serjeant, covering serjeants, and aids, fall away on a signal from the senior major when he is satisfied that the line is dressed correctly. The major then passes through to the rear, files on the left of the right centre company, giving way for that purpose.

The serjeant-major dresses the supernumerary rank from the centre.

Firing, whether by files or by companies, should commence from the centre.

7.—*To form Double Column from this Square.*

If it be necessary to move the square, the commanding officer will reduce it to column at quarter distance, giving for this purpose the commands—

FORM DOUBLE
COLUMN OF
SUB-DIVISIONS.

The covering serjeants of the left centre and left flank companies mark where the pivot flanks of the head and rear divisions of the column will rest, and thus give points on which to correct the covering.

The rear sections of the side faces step back to wheeling distance, and the pivot men of those, and also of the front sections of the side faces, face to the proper front.

The rear ranks of the two front sub-divisions, and of the four sub-divisions of the rear face, lock up.

QUICK MARCH. Division leaders (and supernumeraries) move quickly to their places in the column, those of the left wing giving their whole attention to the correctness of the covering.

The senior major moves to where the leading serjeant has taken up his point, and observes that the covering is correct.

Halt, Dress. The sections of the side faces wheel back on their pivot men, and having done so, receive from leaders of sub-divisions of the LEFT wing, the commands *Halt, Dress*.

Halt, Dress. The two centre sub-divisions, and the four sub-divisions of the rear face, march off, and receive from the leaders of the pivot sub-divisions the commands *Halt, Dress*, and the

Halt, Front, Dress. latter *Halt, Front, Dress*, when they have taken up the quarter distance.

The colours and centre serjeants pass through the sub-divisions in their front, (files giving way for that purpose,) and take up their proper position in the double column, viz., one pace in rear of the two centre sub-divisions.

Mounted officers and anything that may have been within the square to protect, form on the reverse flanks of the column. The commanding officer, however, remains near the pivot flank of the two leading sub-divisions.

If the square has only to move a short distance, or has to move while threatened by cavalry, seeking an opportunity to charge, it may march (as explained in COMPANY DRILL, page 66) by the different sides, facing in the named direction; it will thus be ready to resume the defensive position at any moment, on the command HALT, by the different sides again facing outwards. While marching thus by any of its faces, the *centre* of that face directs. The men of the faces which march in file must carefully keep their proper fronting distances, for should any extension of the files occur, the square could not be re-formed without much unnecessary shuffling and shifting, or without the loss of invaluable moments.

When the square moves by either of its faces, the colours

march in rear of that face. When the square is halted, they return again to their proper and former position.

Square is re-formed from double column in the same way as from a single column at quarter distance, (*see* No. 1 of this Section,) except as to the colours and centre serjeants, who, in the case of double column, fall to the rear of the two sub-divisions which follow them, when those sub-divisions close up, files giving way (as before) to allow them to pass into square.

S. 16.—*When a Battalion forms a Square or Oblong, Two Deep, to protect Baggage or Treasure against Infantry only.*

FORM SQUARE, 1. The colours and centre serjeants, and the
TWO DEEP, commander of the left centre company and
ON THE TWO his covering serjeant, step back two paces.
CENTRE
COMPANIES. The commander of the right centre company
 and his covering serjeant take their places in
 the square.

All the companies but the two centre ones
 (which stand fast) face right about.

Division leaders of the *right* wing shift by
 the rear to the *inward* flanks, and covering
 serjeants of the *left* wing shift at the same
 time, and in like manner, to the *outward*
 flanks of their companies, because square is
 formed by the echellon march of divisions ;
 and (as already stated) it is a rule of echellon,
 whether direct or oblique, that division leaders
 are to be on the inward flanks, viz., on those
 which first reach the divisions already formed,
 while covering serjeants are to be on the
 opposite or outward flanks. The covering
 serjeants of the flank companies mark the rear
 angles of the square, facing to the proper front.

REMAINING
COMPANIES,
RIGHT
AND LEFT
SHOULDERS
FORWARD.

The proper front ranks of the companies
 which faced about lock up.

QUICK MARCH. The two centre companies close, by the side
 step, the interval left between them, and re-
 ceive from the commander of the left centre
 company, the order *Halt*.

FORWARD. The other divisions bring their outward shoulders forward, and having wheeled one-eighth of the circle into echellon, receive the command **FORWARD**, which applies to all but those immediately on the outward flanks of the two centre companies. They continue the wheel, and on completion of the quarter circle, receive from their respective leaders the words

Halt, Front, Halt, Front, Dress.

The companies in echellon move on until the inner flanks of their proper *front* ranks arrive at the outward flanks of those last *Right (or Left) Shoulders Forward.* formed. They then, and by command, bring their outward shoulders forward, and receive, on completion of the wheel, from their leaders, who have moved into square, the commands

Halt, Front, Halt, Front, Dress.

The two flank companies form the rear face, by wheeling three-eighths of the circle when they arrive at the outward flanks of the side faces. They are halted and fronted by their respective commanders when in position.

Should it be impracticable to form square as above, by reason of uneven ground or otherwise, the same operation may take place by making the divisions of each wing form open column in rear of the two centre companies. The companies which are to form the side faces of the square, will then wheel outwards, and the two flank companies close to the front, and face right about.

2.—When the Square or Oblong is to march by any one Face.

THE SQUARE WILL MARCH TO FRONT The colours move up in rear of the centre of the face that is to lead, and, for the time being, that face is to be considered as forming **(REAR, RIGHT, OR LEFT) FACE.** the front of the square.

The men at the four angles who half-faced outwards, face inwards again.

FLANK FACES. The pivot men of the sub-divisions of faces
BY on the right and left of that named as the
SUB-DIVISIONS leading one, that is to say, the front-rank left-
ON THE RIGHT hand men of sub-divisions of the left face, and
AND LEFT the front-rank right-hand men of subdivisions
BACKWARDS of the right face, face inwards.
WHEEL.

QUICK MARCH. Sub-divisions wheel back on those pivot men, and receive, on completion of the wheel,
Halt, Dress. the words *Halt, Dress*, from their future leaders, who take post on their outward flanks, and give their whole attention to the covering.
 The rear face takes two paces to its front, and faces right about.

Thus the companies of the leading and rear faces stand each in line, and when marching must touch to the centre. The companies of the flank faces stand in open column of sub-divisions, and when marching, must dress by, and touch to, the flanks on which the sub-divisions wheeled back, viz., their outward ones, while their leaders carefully preserve their distances and covering.

HALT. The square having gained the desired ground, is ordered to *Halt*.

RE-FORM SQUARE. The outward men of sub-divisions of the side faces in the front rank, (those who faced inwards when the square prepared to march,) face *outwards*; and the rear ranks of those sub-divisions, and of the companies of the rear face, lock up.

QUICK MARCH. The sub-divisions in column wheel on their pivot men, their leaders move to their places in the square, and the rear face will close up and face right about.

The men at the four angles half-face outwards.

The colours again take post in rear of the centre of the *proper* front face of the square

Should the baggage not admit of the sub-divisions of the side faces wheeling back into the square, the rear companies, and those composing the side faces, will receive the commands *Inwards Face*, and face into the named direction; and the men, while marching in file, will take care to keep well up to their fronting distances, so as to be able properly to re-form square on the word HALT.

3.—*To reduce the Square and form Line.*

FORM LINE.

The front-rank centre serjeant passing through, places himself in front of the centre of the two centre companies, and, facing to the left, marks the point of appui at which the senior major will take post.

The covering serjeants of the two centre companies pass through, and, facing towards the centre, mark where their outward flanks will rest, when they have closed outwards.

The junior major places the left aid six paces beyond where the left of the line will rest.

The adjutant places the right aid six paces beyond where the right of the line will be; and those two points facing towards the point of appui are corrected, if necessary, by the senior major.

RIGHT AND
LEFT
SHOULDERS
FORWARD.

The rear ranks of all but the two centre companies lock up.

QUICK MARCH.

The two centre companies open out, by the side step, each four paces, to allow the colours to move up into line; and as the two centre companies after closing ought to require no dressing, their leaders at once take their places in the line. Other companies of the left wing bring left shoulders, and those of the right

wing, right shoulders forward; and having wheeled into echelon, receive the word **FORWARD**, which applies to all but the two flank companies, and those on the immediate right and left of the two centre companies. The former wheel three-eighths of the circle, and then receive the word *Forward* from their respective leaders; the latter complete the quarter-circle, and are then halted and dressed.

Halt, Dress. The commanders of companies in echelon march (as before) on the inward and covering serjeants on their outward flanks. The latter run out to take up their distances, and covering in the line as the *inward* flanks of divisions arrive within 20 paces of the alignment.

Right (Left) Each division leader, on reaching the outward
Shoulders shoulder of the rear-rank man, on the flank of
Forward. the company formed before, will order — *Shoulders Forward*. Then, and not till then, the division commences to wheel up parallel with the intended line; and when it shall have done so, and its front rank is on a line with the rear rank of the formed company, its leader will give the command *Halt*, and stepping to the front, he will add the words *Dress up*, and dress his men. After ordering *Eyes Front*, he will resume his place in the line; if of the right wing, passing thither by the rear.

Halt, Dress give the command *Halt*, and stepping to the
up. front, he will add the words *Dress up*, and dress
Eyes Front. his men. After ordering *Eyes Front*, he will resume his place in the line; if of the right wing, passing thither by the rear.

As soon as the line is dressed, the front-rank centre serjeant falls in, and the senior major passes to the rear, files on the left of the right centre company giving way (as already explained) for that purpose.

The serjeant-major dresses the supernumerary rank from the centre.

S. 17.—*When a Battalion, halted in Line, is to change its Front to the Rear upon the Centre.*

CHANGE FRONT TO THE REAR UPON THE CENTRE. Upon this caution the supernumerary rank closes up two paces and the colours receive the commands *Right Face, Left Countermarch, Quick March*; and having countermarched, *Halt, Front, Dress.*

This done, the front-rank centre serjeant steps to the front, faces to the left, and thus gives the base point, at which the senior major takes post.

The junior major places the left aid six paces beyond where the right of the line will rest.

The adjutant places the right aid six paces beyond where the left of the line will rest.

The covering serjeants of the two centre companies mark where their outward flanks will rest, both facing towards the centre.

Division leaders of the left wing and their covering serjeants change, by the rear, to the left of their companies.

Right (Left) Face, The above changes having been simultaneously made upon the caution, the marginal commands are instantly given to the two centre companies by their respective leaders.

Those companies face outwards and disengage to the front. Both are then countermarched *round the front rank*, and pass each other by the left in rear of the colours. Each commander, as he arrives there, halts, and gives to his division, as the last file reaches him, the commands *Halt, Front, Dress up*; and stepping up, dresses his men from the front-rank centre serjeant.

While the two centre companies are yet countermarching, the commander of the battalion will give to the remaining divisions the order—

THREES, RIGHT
AND LEFT
SHOULDERS
FORWARD,
RIGHT AND
LEFT COUNTER-
MARCH.

} The rear rank locks up.

QUICK MARCH. Companies wheel outwards by threes, and division leaders take post on the pivot flanks of, and covering serjeants in front of, the centre of the leading sections. The divisions of the left wing countermarch to the right, and those of the right wing to the left; and the latter, in their countermarch, describe a circle, the depth of a sub-division, to leave room for the divisions of the left wing to pass. Companies pass each other by the left.

Covering serjeants run out to give points when they arrive within 20 paces of the alignment.

Right (or Left) Each division leader will halt when in rear of the outward flank of the company last formed before, and allowing his own company to pass on, will order, as the last section of threes reaches him, *Right (or Left) Shoulders Forward, Forward*; and when within one pace of the alignment, *Halt, Dress up*.

Commanders of the right wing, after dressing their companies, return to their places on the right, by the rear.

The serjeant-major dresses the supernumerary rank from the centre.

CHANGES OF POSITION OF THE BATTALION FROM LINE, BY MOVEMENTS OF THE OPEN COLUMN.

[Changes of position by means of the open column are *only* to be resorted to where the difficulty of the ground does not favour, or the immediate presence of the enemy does not call for, a movement in echelon.]

S. 18.— *When the Battalion is required to change Position to the Front on the Right Halted Company, by throwing forward the whole Left, and by the Flank March of Companies.*

The right flank is the fixed point on which the change is made, and is in the intersection of *both lines*; another point is placed *ad libitum* 20 or 30 paces beyond that flank, and these two points determine the direction of the new line.

If it is to be at right angles with the old one, the right company stands fast, and the necessary orders for the formation are at once given; but if it is to be oblique to the old line, then the right company (on which the change is to be made) will be wheeled back, by the commander of the battalion on its *outward* flank, so many paces as will make it perpendicular to the new direction.

This, if necessary being done, the order is given—

| | |
|---|--|
| FORM OPEN COLUMN IN FRONT OF THE RIGHT COMPANY. | The senior major places the right battalion aid six paces in rear of the right flank of the right company, and there takes post himself, to correct the covering of the column as the formation goes on. |
|---|--|

The adjutant places the left aid six paces beyond where the pivot flank of the front company of the column will be when the formation is complete.

The supernumerary rank closes up two paces.

The covering serjeant of the right company takes up *in front of, and facing towards his commander*, the wheeling distance for his company, and, having covered carefully on him and the base point, faces to the proper front.

REMAINING
COMPANIES,
RIGHT FACE—
QUICK MARCH.

Companies face to the right, and disengage to the front; when marched off, the commander of the company next the one of formation, will lead on the covering serjeant of that company who took up his point at the caution. His own covering serjeant runs forward, and taking up the distance for the division, covers and faces right about, and gives the point for the next company to march upon, and so on in succession, because the wheeling distance for each company is taken from the one in front of it, and that cannot be judged so accurately by any person as by the covering serjeant of the division for which the distance is required.

Each commander therefore leads his division on the covering serjeant of the company in his rear, and as he reaches him, orders *Halt, Front, Dress*, and takes the exact place vacated by that covering serjeant who, stepping back, passes along the rear of the company for which he gave a point, and returns to his own by the reverse flank of the column.

The colours in all these changes of the open column act as a division in file.

RIGHT WHEEL
INTO LINE.

The whole will then stand an open column left in front, and be wheeled to the right into line.

2. In the same manner the battalion may change its position to the left, *right thrown forward*, by the formation of the open column in front of the left company, that company being first wheeled back on its *outward* flank, as many paces as will make it perpendicular to the new direction, if the change is to oblique to the old line.

On the caution to form the column, the senior major and left aid give the base, and the adjutant and right aid the distant point. Division leaders and covering serjeants change flanks, the former by the *front*, and the latter by the *rear*. Those of the left company, because the column is to be right in front, and the others because the left of companies will lead into column.

The supernumeraries makes the necessary change, and close up two paces.

The covering serjeant of the left company takes up the wheeling distance for his division in front of, and facing towards, his commander. Having carefully covered, he faces right about; and thus each covering serjeant in succession runs out, and taking up the distance for his own company, gives the point on which the company to stand in front of his must be marched.

The whole will then form an open column right in front, and be wheeled to the left into line.

3. If the change of position is effected by the formation of the open column on a *central* company, the caution will order the column to be formed **RIGHT IN FRONT**, if the right, and **LEFT IN FRONT**, if the left, is to be thrown forward.

The two centre aids thereupon mark the distant points, under the superintendence of the junior major and adjutant; and these are corrected, if necessary, by the senior major, who takes post at the pivot flank of the named company.

Commanders and covering serjeants of companies *on the right of the named one*, change flanks by the *front* and *rear*, upon the caution; and if the column is to be *right* in front, the commander and covering serjeant of the named company also change.

In the latter case, the supernumeraries (who close up two paces) change accordingly.

On the command **RIGHT AND LEFT FACE**, the companies of the wing to be thrown forward, after facing, disengage to the front: and those of the other wing, after facing, disengage to the rear.

Covering serjeants of companies, forming in *rear* of the named one, give points for their own divisions to march upon; while the covering serjeant of the named company, and of those forming in its front, give (as in No. 1) points for the divisions which, in the column, will stand in front of their own.

4.—*When the Battalion is to change Position on a Flank Halted Company, by throwing back the other Flank.*

The direction of the new line is taken in the same manner as when throwing forward a flank, but from the *inward* instead of the *outward* flank of the company of formation. If the change of front is to be at right angles with the old line, the company of formation will stand fast: if oblique to it, that company will be wheeled back, by the commander of the battalion on its *inward* flank, as many paces as will make it perpendicular to the new direction. This, if necessary, being done, the order is given—

FORM
OPEN COLUMN
IN REAR
OF THE RIGHT
COMPANY.

The commander of the right company changes flanks by the *front*.

His covering serjeant gives the base point six paces in front of, and facing towards him.

The senior major takes post at the base point, to correct the covering of the column.

The adjutant and left aid give the distant point six paces beyond where the pivot flank of the rear company of the column will rest.

The supernumeraries close up two paces, and make the necessary changes.

**REMAINING
COMPANIES
RIGHT FACE.**

The remaining companies face towards the one of formation, and disengage to the rear.

QUICK MARCH. Each covering serjeant, at 20 paces from the new alignment, runs out, covers at wheeling distance in the line of pivots, and gives a point for his *own* company to march upon.

Halt, Each division leader halts as he reaches his
Front, Dress. covering serjeant, in *rear* of whom his company files; and as the last file reaches him, orders *Halt, Front, Dress*, and replaces his serjeant, who steps back and takes his place in the rear.

If the *right* flank is to be thrown back, open column will be formed in rear of the left company, that company being first wheeled back on its *inward* flank as many paces as will make it perpendicular to the new direction, if the change is to be oblique to the old line. This, if necessary, being done, and the caution given, all division leaders and covering serjeants, except those of the left company, change flanks by the *front* and *rear*; but those of the left company do not change, as right will be the pivot flank of the column.

The supernumerary rank closes up two paces, and the covering serjeant of the left company gives the base point six paces in front of, and facing towards, his commander, who allows him to pass to the front for that purpose.

Companies face to the left, and disengage to the rear. The manœuvre is then conducted in the same manner as when column is formed on the right company, left thrown back. (No. 4.)

These changes of position may be effected, when thought expedient, by moving the companies into the new alignment by threes; and in that case, the double march may be applied.

The serjeant-major, in all these formations, is on the reverse flank of the column, correcting the parallelism and dressing of companies.

On a Distant Point.

On the principles above laid down, changes of position on a distant point may be readily effected, by breaking the battalion into open column, and marching to the point in the new alignment, where the front or central company is to rest, wheeling one or more divisions into the alignment, and filing the remainder to their places in the column.

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S. 19.—*When the Battalion, formed in Line, changes Position by breaking into Open Column, marching in Column to the Point in the new Position where its head is to rest, and to which its Rear Divisions form, by successively passing each other and wheeling up.*

FORM LINE
TO THE
REVERSE
FLANK.

The adjutant, accompanied by the aid in rear of the column, proceeds to where the left of the line (supposing the right to be in front) will rest.

Division leaders and covering sergeants change flanks by the *rear*, and the commander of the leading company orders—

LEFT
SHOULDERS
FORWARD.

The leading company wheels on the moveable pivot, and those in rear of it must gradually incline to the left by the oblique step, in order to be able to march clear of the first. If the ground will not admit of this, the companies in rear of each wheeling one in succession will step short, so that the quarter circle may be performed before the company next following reaches the pivot flank of the wheeling division.

Forward.

On completion of the wheel this command is given, and the company takes three paces to the front.

Halt, Dress.

The right aid gives the base point six paces beyond the right flank of the halted company, and there the senior major takes post.

The covering serjeant, and a supernumerary

one of the right company, give points in front of the second files from either flank, facing towards the right.

Eyes Front. The commander of the company dresses it, and ordering *Eyes Front*, resumes his place on the right.

Left Shoulders Forward, Forward. The other divisions move on square behind the one first formed; and each, as it comes opposite to its ground, will receive the order *Halt, Left Shoulders Forward, Forward*; and when within one pace of the alignment, *Halt, Dress up.*

Eyes Front. Covering serjeants fall away as the third company on their outward flank receives the command *Eyes Front*.

The serjeant-major dresses the supernumerary rank from the right.

If line is formed to the reverse flank, with left in front, commanders of companies, after dressing their divisions from the left, return to their places on the right by the rear.

S. 20.—*When the Leading Flank of the Column is changed, by the successive March of Divisions, from the Rear to the Front.*

If the Right is in Front, the Left to be brought up, and the Column to continue to advance.

HALT. The column halts.

BY SUCCESSIVE DIVISIONS, the front. Commanders of companies change flanks by

REAR WING TO THE FRONT. Their covering serjeants do so by the rear.

The colours change also, receiving from the officer carrying the Queen's colour the commands *Right Face—Quick March—Halt, Front, Dress.*

The commander of the rear division (the left) orders—

Right Face—Quick March. The company, led by its covering serjeant, files out.

Front Turn. Its commander halts at the third pace, and orders, as the last file reaches him, *Front Turn*, and takes post on the inner flank until clear of the column.

The covering serjeant preserves his leader's place on the right, (the new pivot flank,) until, clear of the old column, when he changes there by the rear. Then the covering serjeant drops back, and covers the 2nd file.

Each company in succession (*and the colours as a division*) will proceed in the same manner, each leader ordering *Right Face*, as the company in rear of which his own will file approaches him, and *Quick March* as that

company passes, but so timed that the one advancing may just clear his own as it files out; by which means each division will have its exact wheeling distance from the one in front. The command *Front Turn* is given when the inward flank of each company reaches its commander, who then marches on that flank until clear of the old column, when he changes by the rear to the proper pivot flank.

The colours receive the command *Front Turn* when in rear of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th files from the *inward* flank of the company they follow; and when the leader of that company changes, they also change, receiving the commands *Right*, *Half Turn*, *Double*, and when at their place, *Front Turn—Quick*.

The front of the column may be similarly changed from half, quarter, or close distance; but from the filing out of divisions, it will have the effect of making the new column in either case an open one.

In order that the divisions successively taking up the march should step with the same feet, division leaders must here, and in all similar cases, pay particular attention to the rules laid down in *Company Drill*, for their guidance as to giving the last word of command as the right feet of the divisions in motion are advanced to the front, so that their own may step off with the left feet as the left feet of the others are advanced to the front

S. 21.—*When it is required to change the Wings of an Open, Half, or Quarter-Distance Column, formed upon a Road where the Space does not admit of a Flank Movement.*

BY DOUBLE
FILES, FROM
THE CENTRE,
REAR WING
TO THE
FRONT.

The commander of the rear division orders—

Inwards Face, The sub-divisions of that company face
by Files, from inwards, and the two centre front-rank men
the Centre. disengage to the right and left by the side
step, and shew the interval into which their
rear-rank men will step.

The commander of that company, while the men face, passes by the front, and takes post on the flank of the centre file of the *reverse* sub-division.

His covering serjeant places himself in front of that man on whose flank his leader is posted.

All other division leaders take post in front, and their covering serjeants in rear of the centre of their companies, ready to wheel up with the sections of their *reverse* sub-divisions.

While these changes are being made, the commander of the battalion will order—

TWO CENTRE
SECTIONS,
OUTWARDS
WHEEL.

The outward men of the centre sections in the front rank face outwards, and the rear ranks of those sections lock up.

QUICK
MARCH.
Halt, Dress.

The sections wheel outwards, and when square, receive the command *Halt, Dress*, from the commanders of companies, who, with

their covering serjeants, wheel up with the sections of the *reverse* sub-divisions.

At the same time the rear company steps off, and (its sub-divisions wheeling to the right and left) advances four abreast, the supernumeraries similarly ranged in rear of the company. In this manner it marches through the openings formed in the centre of the battalion by the wheeling outwards of the centre sections.

Inwards Face. Each company will successively follow in the same manner, receiving from its leader the commands *Inwards Face*, when the company which is to precede it from the rear is filing through, and the words *Quick March* the moment the rear of that company has cleared the flanks of the sections which wheeled outwards. The files of each sub-division incline towards each other as they advance.

The colours receive the commands *Right Face*, *Quick March*, when the company they follow marches off, and when in rear of it, *Front Turn*.

Thus they march until clear of the old column, when, as the company in front forms up, they march to their place in rear of its pivot flank, the words *Right (or Left) Half Turn*, and then *Front Turn*, being given for that purpose.

Form Company. As each company clears the front of the halted column, its leader will give the words *Form Company*, and turn towards his men to superintend the wheel, and step back to the new pivot flank.

His covering serjeant drops through the centre as the rear-rank men give way, and passes to the rear of the 2nd file from the pivot flank.

The leading double file marks time. The two centre (rear-rank) men drop to rear, and their front-rank men close the interval between them by the side step.

The left sub-division turns to the left, and brings left shoulders forward.

The right sub-division turns to the right, and brings right shoulders forward.

The supernumeraries wheel up with that sub-division in rear of which they will have to march in the new column.

Forward. When, by wheeling the quarter circle round the centre files, the company has formed to the front, the commander of it will order *Forward*, and thus divisions will successively take up the march in column, and dress by the new pivot flank.

When the change is completed, the column, if the manœuvre has been properly conducted, will be marching at half distance.

CLOSE AND QUARTER-DISTANCE COLUMN.

S. 22.—*When a Battalion forms a Close or Quarter-Distance Column from Line.*

1.—*If a Close Column before or behind either of the Flank Companies.*

At the caution, which states on what company the column is to be formed, and whether right or left in front, division leaders and covering serjeants whose companies are on *the right* of the named one, change flanks, the former by the *front*, and the latter by the *rear*, in order to be on those flanks which will lead into column; and if right it is to be in front, the commander and covering serjeant of the named company also change.

FORM CLOSE
COLUMN RIGHT
IN FRONT ON
THE RIGHT
COMPANY.

Following the above rule, the commander of the right company, on the marginal caution, will change flanks *by the front*.

His covering serjeant, passing also by the front, gives the base point six paces in front of, and facing towards, his commander.

The senior major takes post there, to correct the covering, if necessary.

The adjutant places the left aid six paces beyond where the pivot flank of the rear company will be.

All other division leaders remain in their places, as they are already on the flanks which will lead into column.

The supernumerary rank closes up two paces.

RIGHT FACE. The supernumeraries of the right company face to the right or reverse flank, on which they will have to form.

All the companies but the right one, face to the right, and disengage to the rear.

Commanders take post on the left of their leading files, and covering serjeants in front of the front-rank men of those files, except the covering serjeant of the company next that on which the formation is to be made, who takes up his point two paces in rear of the commander of that division, so that his own, on the command **QUICK MARCH**, may at once file in rear of him.

The colours, in this instance, (or if the column is formed on any other company of the *right* wing, **RIGHT IN FRONT**,) *lead* the left centre company, as their place in the column will be on the reverse flank of that company. The commander of it will therefore treat the colours as forming part of his division, and he and his covering serjeant will place themselves accordingly.

QUICK MARCH. Divisions file to their places in the column ; and each covering serjeant runs out when 20 paces from the alignment, and takes up the distance of two paces from the coverer in his front.

Halt, Front,
Dress. Commanders halt as they reach their covering serjeants, and allowing their companies to file in rear of them, order, as the last files arrive at the pivot flank, *Halt, Front, Dress*, and instantly replace their coverers, who step back one pace, and are thus at their posts in the close column, viz., in rear of their leaders.

The men dress themselves, and are corrected, if necessary, by the serjeant-major from the

reverse flank, where, *in all these formations*, he takes post for that purpose.

The front rank of each company will thus stand at one pace distance from the rear rank of the company before it.

Supernumeraries do not halt with their divisions, but march on, and form up on their reverse flanks; the officers aligned with the front ranks, covered by their non-commissioned officers in the rear.

As soon as the column is formed, the base and distant points fall in on a signal from the senior major, and the mounted officers take their places on the reverse flanks.

The commander of the battalion remains near the pivot flank of the leading division.

If column is to be formed **LEFT IN FRONT** on the right company, *all* division leaders will keep their places: he of the named company, because right, will be the pivot of the column; and the rest, because the right flanks of companies, will (as before) lead into column.

On the caution, the supernumerary rank will close up two paces. The covering serjeant of the right company will step back six paces, to mark the base point, and the left aid will give the distant point. The senior major and adjutant accompany those points as before.

When the companies face to the right, and disengage to the front, the supernumeraries of the company of formation face to the left, or reverse flank, on which they will have to form.

Covering serjeants run out when 20 paces from the *pivot* flank of the column, cover at two paces from the covers in their rear, and then face to the proper front.

Division leaders march with their companies *up to* their covering serjeants, but rather in rear than in front of them, so that their companies, when halted, may dress up. Having arrived within *fronting* distance, they will order *Halt, Front, Dress*, and replace their serjeants as before.

Supernumeraries halt as they arrive at the *reverse* flank, and allow their companies to pass them. They form up in their places when the companies are halted.

The colours, in this instance, (or if the column is formed on any other company of the *right* wing, except the right centre one **LEFT IN FRONT**,) face with and *follow* the right centre company. In the excepted case they do not move, as their place in line is the one they will occupy in the column.

**FORM CLOSE
COLUMN,
RIGHT IN
FRONT
ON THE LEFT
COMPANY.**

At this caution all division leaders will change flanks by the *front*: he of the named company, because left, will be the pivot of the column; and the rest, because the left flanks of companies, will lead into column.

Covering serjeants at the same time change by the *rear*, and he of the left company will give the base point, six paces in rear of his commander.

The right aid will give the distant point.

The supernumerary rank closes up two paces.

LEFT FACE.

Companies face to the left, and disengage to the front; but the supernumeraries of the named division face to the *right*, or reverse flank, on which they will have to form.

The colours, in this instance, (or if the column is formed on any other company of the *left* wing, except the left centre one, **RIGHT IN FRONT**,) face with and *follow* the left centre company. In the excepted case, they do not move, as their place in line is the one they will occupy in column.

QUICK MARCH.

The formation proceeds in the same manner as when forming close column in front of the right company.

If column is to be formed **LEFT IN FRONT** on the left company, the leader of it, and his covering serjeant, do not

change, because *right* will be the pivot flank of the column. All other division leaders and their covering serjeants change, (as before,) because the left flanks of companies will again lead into column. The covering serjeant of the left company gives the base point, six paces in front of, and facing towards, his commander.

The right aid will give the distant point.

The supernumerary rank closes up two paces.

As soon as companies have faced to the left, and disengaged to the rear, the covering serjeant of the company next that of formation, takes up his point two paces in rear of the commander of that division, so that his own, on the command QUICK MARCH, may at once file in rear of him.

The colours, in this instance, (or if the column is formed on any other company of the *left* wing LEFT IN FRONT,) face with and *lead* the right centre company, as their place in the column will be on the reverse flank of that company, the commander of which will therefore treat the colours as forming part of his division, and he and his covering serjeant will place themselves accordingly.

On the command QUICK MARCH, the formation proceeds in the same manner as when forming close column in rear of the right company.

2.—On a Central Company.

FORM CLOSE COLUMN, RIGHT IN FRONT, ON THE LEFT CENTRE COMPANY. The commander of the left centre company changes flanks by the *front*, and his covering serjeant by the *rear*, because the column is to be *right* in front.

Commanders and covering serjeants of companies, on the *right* of the left centre one, also change by the *front* and *rear*, because the left flanks will lead into column.

The senior major takes post at the pivot flank of the company of formation, that being the base point from which he will correct the coverers as they take up points.

The two centre aids, superintended by the junior major and adjutant, give the distant

points, six paces beyond where the pivot flanks of the front and rear companies of the column will rest.

The supernumerary rank closes up two paces.

INWARDS FACE. The right wing faces to the left, and the heads of companies disengage to the front, because the column is to be formed right in front.

The left wing (except the left centre company) faces to the right, and the heads of companies disengage to the rear.

The supernumeraries of the left centre company face to the right, or reverse flank, on which they will have to form.

The covering serjeant of the company, forming immediately in rear of the left centre one, takes up his point after facing.

QUICK MARCH. Divisions file to their places in the column, those forming in front of the named division following the rules as explained for forming *in front* of the **LEFT** company, and those forming in rear of the named division, following the rules as explained, for forming *in rear* of the **RIGHT** company.

The colours, in this instance, (as already explained,) do not move.

3.—*Column facing to the Rear.*

Column may also be formed from line upon any company *facing to the rear*; the company of formation, upon the caution, countermarching in file by command of its leader, so as to lead to the new pivot flank, where its covering serjeant gives a point; shifting by the rear for that purpose, *if not already there*. The other companies are faced *outwards*, and countermarched to the right and left, the commanders and covering serjeants of such of

them as are on the *left* of the named one having previously changed flanks.

FORM CLOSE COLUMN, FACING TO THE REAR, RIGHT IN FRONT, ON THE RIGHT COMPANY. Following the above rule, commanders and covering serjeants of all companies but the named one, change flanks by the *front* and *rear*. At the same time, the right aid gives the base point, six paces in rear of the covering serjeant of the named division.

The left aid gives the distant point.

The supernumerary rank closes up two paces.

The commander of the right company takes one pace to the front, and turning towards his men, orders—

Left Face. The company faces to the left, and the three leading files disengage to the front.

The covering serjeant faces right about.

Right Countermarch, Quick March. The company, after taking one pace on-wards, countermarches to the right. As the leading file comes within fronting distance of the covering serjeant, the commands are given—

Halt, Front, Dress. and the commander of the company replaces his coverer, who steps back one pace, and covers him.

The supernumeraries face and countermarch with the company, and form up on its reverse flank, when the other companies have marched off, and left space for that purpose.

LEFT FACE. Companies face to the left, viz., *outwards*, and disengage to the front, ready to countermarch to the right, and form in rear of the right company.

The colours, in this instance, (or if close column, facing to the rear, is formed, on any other company of the *right* wing, **RIGHT IN FRONT**,) face with and *follow* the left centre company.

RIGHT
COUNTER-
MARCH,
QUICK MARCH. } Companies, after countermarching, are led
into column as before.

If column facing to the rear is to be formed on the right company **LEFT IN FRONT**, the right aid will give the base, and the left aid the distant point. Commanders and covering serjeants of companies on the left of the named one, change flanks, as already explained; and the covering serjeant of the named company will change to the new pivot flank—viz., to the left, ready to face about, and give his point as the division faces to the right, which it will do on the words *Right Face—Left Countermarch—Quick March*, from its leader, who then countermarches with it, and orders *Halt, Front, Dress*, on reaching his covering serjeant.

The supernumeraries countermarch with the company, and form on its reverse flank.

Other companies, by order of the commander of the battalion, face to the left, (*outwards*,) and disengage to the rear, ready to countermarch to the left, and form in *front* of the right company.

The colours, in this instance, (or if close column, facing to the rear, is formed, **LEFT IN FRONT**, on any other company of the *right* wing except the right centre one,) face with and *lead* the right centre company.

In the excepted case, they face with and *follow* that company.

FORM CLOSE
COLUMN
FACING TO THE
REAR, RIGHT
IN FRONT, ON
THE LEFT
COMPANY.

The left aid gives the base point, six paces in front of the commander of the left company.
The right aid gives the distant point.
The supernumerary rank closes up two paces.

The leader of the left company takes one pace to the front, and turning towards his men, orders—

Left Face. The company faces to the left, and its covering serjeant faces right about.

Right Countermarch, Quick March. The company after taking one pace onwards, countermarches to the right. As the leading file arrives within fronting distance of the covering serjeant, it receives the order *Halt, Front, Dress*, from its leader, and he replaces his covering serjeant, who steps back and covers him.

The supernumeraries countermarch with the company, and form on its reverse flank.

The commander of the battalion then orders—

RIGHT FACE. Companies face to the right, (*outwards*,) and disengage to the rear, ready to countermarch to the right, and form in front of the left company.

The colours, in this instance, (or if close column, facing to the rear, is formed, **RIGHT IN FRONT**, on any other company of the *left* wing except the left centre one,) face with and *lead* the left centre company. In the excepted case, they face with and *follow* that company.

| | | |
|--------------|---|------------|
| RIGHT COUN. | } | As before. |
| TERMARCH, | | |
| QUICK MARCH. | | |

If column, facing to the rear, is to be formed on the *left* company, **LEFT IN FRONT**, the covering serjeant of that company will change to the new pivot flank, and the commander of it will order *Right Face, Left Countermarch, Quick March*, and countermarch with it. As he reaches the covering serjeant, (who faced about as the company faced to the right,) he will order, *Halt, Front, Dress* (as before).

The remaining companies are faced to the right, and disengage to the front, ready to countermarch to the left, and form in rear of the left company.

The colours, in this instance, (or if close column, facing to the rear, is formed, on any other company of the *left* wing, **LEFT IN FRONT**,) face with and *follow* the right centre company.

From the full explanations given for forming close

column, facing to the rear, on a flank company, it will be unnecessary to state in detail how it would be formed on a central company. It will be sufficient to repeat that the named division faces and countermarches by command of its leader, so as to lead to the new pivot flank. Commanders and covering serjeants whose divisions are on the *left* of the named one, change flanks by the *front* and *rear*. Companies are faced *outwards*, and after disengaging, are countermarched, either in front or rear of the named division, as right or left may have been ordered to be in front.

4.—*Quarter-Distance Column.*

It will be equally unnecessary to detail how column at quarter-distance is formed to the front or rear, on any company, either right or left in front.

The rules are the same as for the formation of close column, except that in forming at quarter-distance, the colours march as a division in file, and halt in rear of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th files from the pivot flank of the right or left centre company, as right or left may be in front.

Supernumeraries, instead of forming on the reverse flanks, halt in rear of their divisions; and if the column is to be formed right in front, they will make the necessary changes on the caution.

The covering serjeant of the named division, and of others forming in front of it, will take up the quarter distance for their own companies; and thus give points on which the companies that will be in front of them in the column will march. They will return to their proper places by the the reverse flank of the column.

Covering serjeants of divisions forming in rear of the *named one*, give points for their own companies to march upon.

The quarter-distance column possesses many advantages over the close column. It may be formed from line, or line from it, in double time, by the application of the march of threes, which is not applicable to the close column. In this case, the leading three of the company next that of

formation, must, when forming column from line, wheel upon its centre file, in disengaging to the rear.

The quarter-distance column may instantly be converted into a hollow square, four deep, which the close column cannot form without opening to quarter distance. If, therefore, the close column is suddenly called upon to prepare for cavalry, the sub-divisions of all the companies but the two front and rear ones, will, on the command **FORM SQUARE, QUICK MARCH**, wheel outwards by threes, and close upon the front; and the two rear companies will face to the right about, the officers and serjeants taking post in the centre.

The close column, however, is the best adapted to the wheel of columns for change of front; but the wheel of the quarter-distance column may be performed, as hereafter explained, under every circumstance, if deemed necessary.

5.—*The Close, or Quarter-Distance Column may be formed from any more open Column.*

CLOSE TO THE FRONT. The covering serjeant of the leading division gives the base point, six paces in front of, and facing towards, his commander. The senior major takes post there.

The aid in rear of the column gives, six paces beyond the pivot flank of last company, the point on which the senior major will, if necessary, correct the covering, during, or after, the formation.

QUICK MARCH. The supernumeraries of the leading division face to, and form up on, the reverse flank.

Halt. Divisions in rear of the leading one step off, and each, as it arrives within one pace of the company in front, receives from its own leader the command *Halt*, on which the covering serjeant covers his commander, and the supernumeraries turn to, and form up on, the reverse flank.

The colours close with the company in rear of which they are stationed, and when it halts they turn to the reverse flank, and align themselves with the company in their rear, when it has closed up.

If the order to close to the front is given while on the march, the leading division is instantly halted by its leader. The formation then proceeds as above.

The column may also close to the front *without halting*, divisions in rear of the leading one taking up the double march on the command **DOUBLE**, and resuming the regular pace after closing, by the order *Quick*, from their respective leaders.

If the column while in motion is to close upon the rear division, the whole continue to advance, until the companies in front have received the command **RIGHT ABOUT TURN**. The rear division is then halted by its own leader, and the covering serjeant of that company gives the base point, six paces in rear of the pivot flank of, and facing towards, the column. The aid, with the leading division, gives the point of correction.

Companies close upon the rear one, rear ranks in front. Commanders, after turning about, align themselves with the rear ranks, and order *Halt, Front*, as they come within one pace of the divisions last halted before.

Divisions then front, and covering serjeants cover their commanders, who again align themselves with the front ranks. Upon the same rules, the column may close upon a central company, the divisions in front of the named one acting as explained for closing to the rear, and those in rear of the named one acting as explained for closing to the front.

If the column closes only to quarter distance, covering serjeants, supernumeraries, and colours, halt in rear of their divisions. In other respects, the same rules apply as for forming close column.

S. 23.—*When the Column at Close or, Quarter Distance, marches to a Flank.*

COLUMN WILL MARCH TO THE RIGHT (OR LEFT). On this caution, which expresses to which flank the column is to march, the rear ranks of companies lock up.

RIGHT (OR LEFT) FACE. Companies face as ordered. If to the pivot flank, commanders take post on the right or left (as the case may be) of their leading files, and covering serjeants in front of the front-rank men of those files. If to the reverse flank, senior subalterns will lead their companies, unless the commander of the battalion should order **CHANGE YOUR FLANKS**, in which case division leaders do so by the *front*, and and their coverers by the *rear*.

QUICK MARCH. The company which would lead if the column were fronted, will be the directing one; and the distance between, and the dressing of the heads of divisions, while filing out, will be regulated accordingly.

If the column is in motion when required to march to a flank, the caution will be given, **THE COLUMN WILL TAKE GROUND TO THE RIGHT, (OR LEFT,)** followed by the commands **RIGHT (OR LEFT) TURN.**

HALT, FRONT. When the column halts and fronts, commanders and covering serjeants, if they shifted to the *reverse* flank, return to their proper places on the *pivot* flank; the former by the *front*, the latter by the rear. If the column is *not* halted, but merely turned to the front, by

the command **FRONT TURN**, then both division leaders and their coverers return to the pivot flank by the *rear*.

The column, if at quarter distance, may march to a flank in sections of threes, (instead of in file,) led as above.

S. 24.—*When the Column at Quarter Distance, moving to the Front or Rear, takes Ground to the Right or Left, by the Echelon March of Sections.*

The column marching to the front, receives the caution, **THE COLUMN WILL TAKE GROUND TO THE RIGHT, (OR LEFT,) IN ECHELLON OF SECTIONS,** followed by the command—

**SECTIONS
RIGHT (OR
LEFT.)**

The right (or left) hand men of sections in the front rank of each company, turn in a small degree to the right, (or left,) and mark time, while the sections wheel on them two paces.

FORWARD.

This command should be given so that the third pace may be taken direct to the front the sections will have acquired by wheeling into echelon. If not then given, the sections continue to mark time until it is.

In this movement, commanders of companies will remain on the proper pivot flank; and when the column takes ground to the reverse flank, the covering will be taken up on the reverse flanks of companies, by the senior subalterns, so as to preserve the exact parallelism of the companies when wheeled back into column,

**RE-FORM
COLUMN.**

The right (or left) hand men of sections, who were the pivots on which the wheel forward was made, turn to their original front, and the sections wheel back on them two paces, and mark time till the word **HALT, OR FORWARD,** is given. (*See COMPANY DRILL, Section 22, page 63.*)

HALT.

At the same time, senior subalterns, if ground has been taken to the reverse flank, drop back, and resume their places in the supernumerary rank.

Ground may also be taken to a flank by the diagonal march, **RIGHT (OR LEFT) HALF TURN**, and this may be applied at close as well as at quarter distance.

S. 25.—*When a Column Halted, at Close or Quarter Distance, is to wheel on a fixed or a moveable Pivot.*

1.—*At Close Distance, on a fixed Pivot.*

COLUMN, TO
THE RIGHT
(OR LEFT)
WHEEL.

On this caution, the officer or man on the right, if the wheel is to the right (on the left, if the wheel is to the left) of the front rank of the leading division, faces outwards.

The covering serjeant of that company will run out by the pivot flank, and mark where its wheeling flank will rest when the wheel is completed.

The rear ranks of companies lock up, and all but the front division half-face to the *wheeling* flank.

QUICK
(OR DOUBLE)
MARCH.

The front company wheels as usual, except that the step must be much shorter, and regulated according to the depth of the column, so as to give the rear companies time to come round. These companies will step off at the same moment, bringing the wheeling shoulder gradually up.

The *outward* flank is the directing one, and to ensure the proper execution of the wheel, it is indispensably requisite, when companies are equalized, that the outward files should preserve their proper distance from the companies in front, *and their covering with the outward wheeling file of the front company* of the column; but this must not be attempted if the companies are of unequal strength, as at all

times during the wheel, each file, while circling round, must cover the relative files of the division in front, by which the component parts of the column will be rendered flexible, and freedom will be given to the files to move in the course of their respective circles, without pressing inwards upon each other, and upon the inward flank.

During the wheel, the senior major will superintend the diagonal line of covering of the leading flanks of divisions, so that the column may at any moment during the wheel, be halted and deployed, or turned to the front, by the word **FORWARD**—without the proper distance between divisions, the covering of the pivots, or the dressing of the men, having been destroyed.

HALT.

The commanding officer will order **HALT**, when he sees that the leading company has completed the wheel, at which time the rear companies must also have circled round into the new direction. On that command, the men who half-faced to the wheeling flank, face again to the proper front; *after which no man is to move*, unless companies are ordered to be dressed, which will be unnecessary if the wheel is performed according to the above plain but imperative rules.

The covering serjeant who gave a point, resumes his place in the column.

2.—*At Close Distance, on a moveable Pivot.*

The close column, while in march, may change its direction on the moveable pivot upon the same principle. The caution will be given, **THE COLUMN WILL WHEEL TO THE RIGHT, (OR LEFT,)** followed by the command, **LEFT (OR RIGHT) SHOULDERS FORWARD**, upon which the lead-

ing division wheels at a shortened pace, the pivot man gradually advancing during the wheel, in the new direction; the rear divisions make a half-turn to the wheeling flank, and circle round, according to the preceding instructions.

If the column is required to wheel in double time, the commander will give the word **DOUBLE**, and when the wheel is completed, **FORWARD**, **QUICK**, unless the column is to continue at the double time.

3.—*At Quarter Distance, on a fixed Pivot.*

**COLUMN,
TO THE RIGHT
(OR LEFT)
WHEEL.** The rear ranks of companies lock up, and all divisions but the leading one, make a half-face to the wheeling flank.

The front-rank man on the named flank of the leading division, whether officer or private, takes six paces to the front, and faces into the ordered direction—to the right, if the wheel is to be to the right, and *vice versa*.

The covering serjeant of that company will run out, and mark where its wheeling flank will rest after the wheel is performed.

**QUICK
(OR DOUBLE)
MARCH.** The front division will advance six paces, and then wheel, at shortened steps, round the pivot, the rear companies circling round, as before.

**HALT (OR
FORWARD.)** As before.

4.—*At Quarter Distance, on a moveable Pivot.*

The quarter-distance column, while in march, may change its direction on the moveable pivot, upon the same principle. The caution will be given, **THE COLUMN WILL WHEEL TO THE RIGHT, (OR LEFT,)** followed by the com-

mand, LEFT (OR RIGHT) SHOULDERS FORWARD, upon which the leading division at once, *and without advancing six paces*, moves round at a short pace, the pivot man gradually advancing during the wheel into the new direction. The rear divisions half turn as before, and circle round.

The wheel, if required, may be performed in double time.

S. 26.—*When a Close or Quarter-Distance Column is to change its Front by the Wheel, and Countermarch of Sub-divisions round the Centre.*

COUNTER-
MARCH BY
SUB-DIVISIONS
ROUND THE
CENTRE.

The rear ranks of the *pivot* sub-divisions lock up.

The right and left aids give points, the one in front of the centre of the leading division, and the other in rear of the centre of the rear division of the column, each facing towards the pivot flank.

These points mark the angle on which the respective sub-divisions are to wheel the half-circle: they also mark the point at which the leading sub-divisions are to halt when the countermarch is completed.

RIGHT (OR
LEFT) SUB-
DIVISIONS
RIGHT ABOUT
FACE.

The reverse sub-divisions are the ones which will be faced about. Their *proper* front ranks then lock up.

QUICK (OR
DOUBLE)
MARCH.
Wheel.

The whole step off, and each of the *leading* sub-divisions wheels to the right, if right in front, and *vice versâ*; those leading sub-divisions *only* receiving the word *Wheel* from their leaders, and advancing at a short pace *after* the wheel. The other sub-divisions wheel in the same manner, but without word of command, round the points; and after the wheel, step short, to preserve their relative distances from the sub-divisions in front.

The whole wheel thus in succession, touching to the *inward* flanks, and when the leading sub-divisions are in line upon the new front of the column, the whole receive the order—
HALT, FRONT, HALT, and the reverse sub-divisions the words **DRESS. FRONT, DRESS.** These commands should instantly follow the wheel of the last sub-division, when, if the countermarch has been performed correctly, the two sub-divisions of each company will join properly, and all will stand on their proper ground.

The aids resume their places in the column.

If the close or quarter-distance column is in march, its front may be changed in a similar manner, **WITHOUT HALTING**, thus:—Upon the caution to countermarch, the column will still continue to advance until the command is given to the reverse sub-divisions **RIGHT ABOUT TURN.** Then the aids quickly take up their points, and the sub-divisions wheel as explained in the last paragraph, the commanding officer giving the words **FRONT TURN** to the *reverse* sub-divisions, *five paces* before they arrive in line with the pivot sub-divisions, and then **HALT, DRESS, OR FORWARD.** If the latter, the whole, touching to their pivots, advance in the new direction.

Battalions must know how to perform the countermarch, so that a battalion column that is to take its place in a mass of contiguous columns, may thus change its front on its own ground, to correspond with the head of the line of columns. At the same time, both in exercise and in the real practice of troops in the field, they should be so prepared as to render it immaterial whether the column is countermarched, and advances front rank in front, or is faced about, and advances rear rank in front.

S. 27.—When a Column at Close Distance is to open out from the Front or Rear.

1.—If from the Front.

COLUMN WILL OPEN TO QUARTER (OR WHEELING) DISTANCE FROM THE FRONT. The covering serjeant of the leading division gives the base point, six paces in front of the pivot flank of the column. The senior major takes post there. The aid in rear of the column superintended by the adjutant, marks the distant point, six paces beyond where the pivot flank of the rear company will rest.

RIGHT ABOUT FACE. All the companies but the front one face about, and the *proper* front ranks then lock up. The supernumeraries of the front division face inwards.

Covering serjeants, after facing about, uncover to the second files from the pivot flanks.

Commanders of companies align themselves with the *proper* rear ranks.

QUICK MARCH. The supernumeraries of the front division file in rear of it, and take up their proper places.

The leader of the rear company (which for the time being leads) will march upon the distant point, and other division leaders will carefully cover upon each other.

The commander of the company next the *front* one of the column, will count the number of paces required, and order, as the proper distance is taken up—

HALT, FRONT. The company fronts, its leader again aligns himself with the front rank, and corrects his covering.

Each division leader in succession will commence to count the required number of paces for his company, as soon as the one halting before him has received the command *Halt, Front*. When the distance is taken up, he will give the same order, and so on in succession.

Supernumeraries march off on the reverse flanks of companies; and when the command *Halt, Front*, is given, they file in rear and take up their respective places.

After the company with which the colours march to the rear is halted, they move to their place in rear of the pivot flank of the company in their front, by order of the officer carrying the Queen's colour.

2.—*If from the Rear.*

COLUMN WILL OPEN TO QUARTER (OR WHEELING) DISTANCE FROM THE REAR. The covering serjeant of the rear division steps back six paces, and gives the base point, where the senior major takes post.

The aid in front of the column superintended by the adjutant, marks the distant point six paces beyond where the pivot flank of the leading division will rest.

The rear ranks of all divisions but the rear one, lock up.

The covering serjeants of those companies uncover to the 2nd files from the pivot flanks.

QUICK MARCH. The supernumeraries of the rear division take up their respective positions in rear of it.

All divisions in front of the rear one move off. The leader of the front company carefully marches upon the battalion aid, and the other leaders cover him.

Halt. As soon as the companies have stepped off, the commander of the rear division (that from which the others are to open out) will number

the company in front of his, thus:—No. 9, No. 7, (or as the case may be,) as a caution to the men of it to prepare for the command *Halt*, which will be given to them by him, as the quarter or wheeling distance for *his own* company is taken up.

The commander of each company, as it is halted from the rear, will instantly *number* the company in his front, and *Halt* it as the required distance is taken up.

The supernumeraries and colours march off (as before explained) on the reverse flanks, and move to their proper places in rear of their respective companies, on the command *Halt*.

If the close column has to open out from a central company, the right and left aids give the distant points, and the senior major takes post at the pivot flank of the named company.

The companies in the front of it act as explained for opening from the rear, and those in rear of it as explained for opening from the front.

If a column at *quarter distance* has to open to half or wheeling distance from the front, rear, or centre, it will do so according to the above rules, except that covering serjeants being already in the rear, have not to uncover. They, together with the colours and the supernumeraries, march off in the places they occupy in rear of their companies when the order is given.

The column may also be opened by the leading division only marching off, and each successively following, as wheeling distance is acquired from the one preceding it. The commander of the battalion in this case orders *OPEN TO QUARTER OR WHEELING DISTANCE IN SUCCESSION FROM THE FRONT*. The leader of the front company then gives to his division the word *Quick March*, and so on, one after the other, as the wheeling distance is taken up.

DEPLOYMENTS.

[Deployments are made from column either at close or quarter distance, and invariably on the base of the *front* company : unless the column at quarter distance is to deploy on some *other* than the front division, in which case the base points must be taken up *three paces* in front of the leading company, to admit of its wheeling forward by threes, which it could not do if the points were close in front of it.

Close columns must necessarily deploy in file; but columns at quarter distance may do so by the flank march of threes. If casualties have taken place, and the telling off cannot be depended upon, quarter-distance columns may at once deploy in file, or close to the front, and then do so.]

S. 28.—*When the Battalion, in Column of Companies at Close Distance, (Right in Front,) deploys into Line.*

1.—*On the Front Company.*

DEPLOY ON
THE FRONT
COMPANY

The right aid gives the base point six paces beyond the right flank of the leading division, facing towards it.

The senior major takes post there.

The adjutant places the left aid six paces beyond, and facing towards where the left of the line will rest.

The commander of the leading division changes flanks by the *front*, and orders *Right Dress—Eyes Front*. His covering serjeant

gives a point close in front of the second file from the left, and a supernumerary serjeant close in front of the second file from the right, both facing towards the flank of appui; viz., the right.

The rear ranks of divisions (except the leading one) lock up.

REMAINING COMPANIES, LEFT FACE. } Companies, with the supernumeraries on their reverse flanks, face as ordered.

The supernumeraries of the leading company also face to the left.

Commanders takes post on the pivot flanks of their leading files.

Covering serjeants in front of the front-rank men of those files.

QUICK MARCH. The supernumeraries of the company of formation file to their places in the rear.

Divisions step off together, with their heads dressed.

The commander of the company next that of formation, takes one pace onwards, and halts.

His covering serjeant runs out to take up the covering and distance in the line for his company, when one-half of it is clear of the division on which it is to form.

Front Turn. As the last file reaches the commander, he will order *Front Turn*, and stepping to the front, give the words *Halt, Dress up*, one pace in rear of the points of formation. He then dresses his division from the covering serjeant of the company on his right.

The supernumeraries of the company file in rear of it as it turns to the front, and take up their places.

Eyes Front. As before.

The leader of each company, in succession, halts when the command *Front Turn* is given to the one which preceded him into line, and as the last file reaches him, gives the same order, and marches on the inward flank of his division. The supernumeraries then take up their places in the rear.

In filing out, the greatest attention is necessary from every one, so that there shall be no necessity, upon marching up to the formed line, to incline to either flank; and commanders, therefore, will not *entirely* trust to the word "*Front Turn*," given to the companies preceding theirs, lest that order should be given too soon or too late; but in order to give the word to their own companies in time, notwithstanding any mistake made by the companies marching into line before theirs, they must look over their inward shoulders, and, if necessary, order *Front Turn*, sooner or later than otherwise, and so remedy the fault, which, but for their so doing, would extend itself to their own divisions.

Covering serjeants run out when within 20 paces of the alignment.

Each division, as it comes within one pace of the points of formation, receives the commands *Halt*, *Dress up*, and after it is dressed, *Eyes Front*.

The colours file out, and turn with the left centre company, and march up with it into line.

Covering serjeants fall away (as before) when the third company on their outward flank receives the order *Eyes Front*.

The serjeant-major dresses the supernumerary rank from the right.

2.—On the Rear Company.

DEPLOY ON
THE REAR
COMPANY.

The left aid (again supposing right to be in front) gives the base point, six paces beyond the left flank of the leading division, facing towards it. The senior major takes post there.

The adjutant places the right aid six paces beyond, and facing towards where the right of the line will rest.

The covering and supernumerary serjeants of the rear division give points close in front of the 2nd files from the left and right of the leading company, facing towards the left.

All division leaders, except the one of the rear company, change flanks by the *front*, and take post outside the supernumeraries, ready to lead their companies to the right.

Their covering serjeants change at the same time by the *rear*.

The rear ranks of all divisions but the rear one, lock up.

REMAINING
COMPANIES,
RIGHT FACE. }

Companies face as ordered.

Commanders take post on the left of their leading supernumeraries, and covering serjeants in front of those supernumeraries on the left of whom their leaders are posted.

QUICK MARCH. The divisions which faced to the right, step off together.

Halt, Front. The commander of the company in front of the rear one, takes one pace onwards, and halts; his division files out, and as the last file reaches him, he orders, *Halt, Front*, and takes post on its inward flank.

His covering serjeant fronts, and remains where he then finds himself; viz., on the outward flank.

The moment the company which was immediately in front of the rear one is halted, as just explained, the commander of the rear company which now has its front clear, will order—

By the Left. The rear rank locks up.

Double March. The men, with sloped arms, step off in double time, the supernumeraries take up their places in the rear, and when the company is within two paces of the points of formation, it receives the order—

*Halt,
Dress up.
Eyes Front.*

Its leader dresses it from the left, and after ordering *Eyes Front*, passes to his post on the right, by the rear.

The commander of each of the other companies halts in his own person, as the company in rear of his receives the commands *Halt, Front*, and when the last file of his own division reaches him, he, in turn, will order *Halt, Front*, and take post on its inward, while his covering serjeant remains on its outward flank.

As the front of each company so halting is uncovered by the others which were in front of it, its leader will order—

By the Left. The rear rank locks up.

Quick March. The company marches off, and the supernumeraries take their places in the rear.

The covering serjeant runs out when within 20 paces of the alignment.

*Halt,
Dress up.*

The company is halted one pace in rear of the alignment. its leader dresses it from the covering serjeant of the company on his left, and after ordering *Eyes Front*, returns to his place on the right, by the rear.

The company which *was* the leading one of the column, being already on the alignment, will not receive the above commands, but merely the words *Halt, Front, Dress*.

The colours file out, and march into line with the left centre company.

The serjeant-major dresses the supernumerary rank from the left.

Covering serjeants fall away as before.

It is particularly to be remembered by commanders and covering serjeants, that in changing flanks they must *turn outwards* and not *inwards*. Division leaders, while changing by the *front*, will be followed by the covering serjeants of the companies in front of theirs.

If the close column is to deploy on a central company, division leaders and covering serjeants in *front* of the named one change flanks upon the caution. The base points are taken up by the covering and supernumerary serjeants of the named company close in front of the leading division, and facing towards each other; and the junior major and adjutant, with the left and right aids, mark the distant points.

The named division, and those in front of it, are then led up into line, as explained for deploying on a rear company; while those in rear of the named division proceed as explained for deploying on a front company.

3.—*From Quarter-Distance Column.*

The same *general* rules apply for deploying at *quarter distance*, as from close column, except that the companies may be wheeled by threes, and the double march applied, if necessary. The rear ranks, therefore, do not lock up on the caution to deploy, but on the command **THREES, RIGHT (OR LEFT) SHOULDERS FORWARD**.

The supernumeraries march out in rear of their companies.

The colours face to the pivot flank on the command **THREES, SHOULDERS FORWARD**, and march off with the company in rear of which they are stationed. They are led into line by command of the officer carrying the Queen's colour.

After marching off, and as the fronts of companies are successively cleared, the sections of threes will receive the

commands *Left (Right) Shoulders Forward—Forward*, and afterwards *Halt, Dress up*.

If the deployment is made on any other than the front company, the base points will be taken up (as before mentioned) three paces in front of the leading division.

If a column is forced by circumstances of ground to deploy to the reverse flank, the same general rules will apply; and the inverted order of divisions in line resulting from it must never be taken into consideration. If the column is at *close* order, the colours, on the caution to **DEPLOY TO THE REVERSE FLANK**, will align themselves with the division in their front, and march with it into line.

If the column is at quarter distance, the colours will change flanks at the caution, if the deployment is on any company in their front; but if it is to be on any company in their rear, they will march off in their place, halt when the commander of the company in rear of which they are marching halts, and take post on its inward flank when it is halted and fronted. When its front is clear, they will march up with it into line.

In deploying to the reverse flank, division leaders and covering serjeants whose companies are in *rear* of that on which the deployment is to be made, change flanks upon the caution.

ECHELLON FORMATIONS AND MOVEMENTS.

S. 29.—*When a Battalion from Line wheels forward by Companies, to either Flank, into Echelon.*

COMPANIES
—— PACES
TO THE LEFT
WHEEL.

The left-hand men of companies in the front rank face into the new direction, and the rear and supernumerary ranks lock up.

Division leaders change by the *rear*, to the inward flanks of their companies; viz., those to which the wheel is to be made.

Supernumeraries make a corresponding change.

Covering serjeants, while their commanders change by the rear, pass by the *front*, and place themselves before the 8th files from the left of their companies, and stepping off together, take the given number of paces on the circumference of the circle. They will thus stand dressed in the line of the flank men who faced into the new direction, and ought all to be in line; but if any small correction is necessary, it will be made by the *junior* major.

QUICK MARCH. Each company wheels up till its 8th file arrives close behind the covering serjeant, at which time its commander gives the word *Halt Dress. Halt Dress*, and when the men have taken up *Eyes Front*. the dressing, *Eyes Front*. Then each cover-

ing serjeant passes to the *outward* flank of his company, and aligns himself with the front rank.

If the battalion is to wheel forward to the right into echelon, division leaders do not change flanks, because they are already on those to which their companies will wheel. They therefore merely take a pace to the front, to allow their covering serjeants to pass, and then resume their places in the line. Covering serjeants take the ordered number of paces from before the 8th files from the RIGHT, and are corrected, if necessary, by the *senior* major.

The colours, in either case, wheel up and form a section of themselves. Thus they will occupy the same position, whether the line takes ground to a flank by echelon of companies, of sub-divisions, or of sections. It may be here stated, that in taking ground to a flank by the march in echelon of sub-divisions or sections, commanders of companies do not change flanks.

2.—*When the Echelon thus formed marches forward and halts.*

The companies standing thus, parallel to each other, and their leaders being on the pivot flanks, (those wheeled up to,) the commander of battalion will order—

THE
ECHELLON
WILL
ADVANCE.

} The rear ranks lock up.

QUICK MARCH. The whole move off together, each flank on its own perpendicular, but all of them parallel to the directing one.

Each commander must be attentive to preserve the distance he marched off at, from the pivot of the company *preceding* his, and must not depend upon covering a certain file in the preceding division to ensure exactness. This alone is not to be trusted, but is rather to be considered as

an aid than as an invariable rule; for the unsteady march of one or more divisions, if productive of a shifting of the following one, would in a sensible manner influence the whole. Each commander, therefore, will dress by, and keep the distance of the company preceding his, from the pivot flank of that company, because, in all situations of the wheeled echelon, the oblique distance from flank to flank is equal to the front of the *preceding* division.

HALT. These rules being observed, the echelon may, at any instant, be ordered to HALT, and it will then be in a situation ready to form parallel or oblique to the line it quitted, as hereafter explained.

S. 30.—*When the Battalion having wheeled from Line into Echelon, has marched and halted, and is to form back parallel to the Line it quitted.*

WHEEL BACK INTO LINE. On the marginal caution, commanders, if companies wheeled to the *left* into echelon, take one pace to the front, and face to the *right*.

The left-hand men of companies in the front rank face again to the proper front.

QUICK MARCH. Each company wheels back on its left, and as soon as its wheeling flank is in rear of the standing flank of the company on its right, it will receive from its own leader the commands—

Halt Dress. and after he has dressed the men

Eyes Front. He then returns by the *rear* to his place on the right, preserved for him in the meantime by his covering serjeant.

If companies wheeled to the *right* into echelon, commanders take a pace to the front, and face to the *left*. On the words *Eyes Front*, covering serjeants return to their places on the right by the rear.

If in a middle of a change of position, line is re-formed from echelon for the purpose of repelling an attack, commanders do not shift from their leading flanks, (unless ordered,) but remain there ready to fire, and to resume the march in echelon.

S. 31.—When a Battalion formed in Line, changes Front on a fixed Flank Company, by throwing forward the rest of the Battalion.

Echelon changes of position are the safest that can be employed in the presence of, and near to, an enemy; they are almost equal in security to the march of the line in front, or to an *uniform wheel of the line*, which, says the Field Exercise, "*is not to be attempted.*" They can be used in the most critical situations, where the filings and movements of the open column (*see SECTION 18*) could not be risked; they are more particularly to be employed when the enemy's flank is to be taken, by throwing the body forward, or when one's own is to be covered, by throwing it backward.

They have the advantage of preserving a general front during the march, and of affording a sufficient freedom of movement, which, in such situation, is indispensable. They effect a change of position on any division of the line, either on a fixed or moving point, and at any instant the movement can be stopped, the line formed, as hereafter explained, and a sudden attack repulsed.

It may be stated that in all cases, divisions *forming*, wheel (only) one-half the angle wheeled by the divisions to be formed upon.

CHANGE
FRONT ON THE
LEFT COM-
PANY, RIGHT
THROWN
FORWARD.

Division leaders change flanks, (by the *rear*,) as left will be the inward flanks of companies during the echelon march.

Covering sergeants change (also by the *rear*) because, when the new direction is determined upon, they will have to place themselves in front of the 8th files from the left.

Supernumeraries make a corresponding change.

The left flank is the fixed point upon which the change is to be made, and is in the intersection of both lines. Another point is placed (*ad libitum*) 20 or 30 paces beyond that flank, and there the senior major takes post. These two points determine the direction of the new line, and the adjutant, with the right aid, will prolong the same as far as the outward flank of the battalion will extend.

If the change of front is to be at right angles with the old line, the commander of the battalion will instantly order, **THE LEFT COMPANY WILL WHEEL THE QUARTER CIRCLE—REMAINING COMPANIES, FOUR PACES TO THE LEFT WHEEL**, and the formation will proceed as hereafter explained.

If the change is to be *oblique* to the old line, the commanding officer, before ordering divisions to wheel into echelon, will direct the covering serjeant of the left company to wheel up, from *before* the 8th file from the left, into the new line, thereby to ascertain the number of paces required. That having been done, and (for the sake of example) suppose the number to be six, he will order—

LEFT COM-
PANY, SIX
PACES,
REMAINING
COMPANIES
THREE PACES,
TO THE LEFT
WHEEL.

The rear rank of the line locks up.

The left-hand men of companies, in the front rank, face into the direction their divisions will acquire when their respective wheels are completed.

Covering serjeants (except the one of the left company, who remains stationary to mark the ground on which his division will be halted) pass to the front, and place themselves before the 8th files from the left of their divisions, take three paces on the arc of the circle, and are corrected by the *junior* major, if necessary.

QUICK MARCH. Divisions step off, and the one of formation wheels into the new line, and its leader orders, as the 8th file reaches the covering serjeant, *Halt Dress. Halt Dress.* After dressing it and ordering *Eyes Front. Eyes Front,* he returns to his place on the right, by the rear, while the supernumeraries of that company make a corresponding change.

The moment the company of formation is halted, its covering serjeant and a supernumerary one give the base points in front of the 2nd files, from either flank, facing towards the point of appui.

Other companies wheel until the 8th files from the left reach their covering serjeants, when the commanders of those divisions order *Halt Dress,* and having dressed them, *Eyes Front*; at which command, covering serjeants move to the outward flanks of their divisions, and take post there, aligned with the front ranks.

The colours wheel as a division.

FORM LINE. The rear ranks of the companies in echelon lock up.

QUICK MARCH. Each company marches *straight to the front it has acquired by wheeling into echelon,* and the touch is to the inward flank. On no account must any attempt be made to bring the outward shoulders forward, until the order is given for that purpose, *on reaching the new line.*

Covering serjeants run out to take up their covering and distance in the alignment, when the *inward* flanks of their divisions are 20 paces off. Each division leader as he reaches the outer shoulder of the rear-rank man, on the flank of the company formed before, will order *Right Shoulders Forward*; then, and not till then, the division commences to wheel up,

*Right
Shoulders
Forward.*

parallel with the intended line ; and when it shall have done so, and its front rank is on a line with the rear rank of the formed company, its leader will give the command *Halt*, and stepping to the front he will add the words *Dress up*, and dress his men from the covering serjeant of the company on his left. After ordering *Eyes Front*, he will change to his place on the right, by the rear.

Halt,
Dress up.

Eyes Front.

Supernumeraries make a corresponding change.

Covering serjeants fall away, as usual, when the 3rd company on their outward flank receives the command *Eyes Front*.

When the whole line is dressed, the other points fall away, on a signal from the senior major.

The serjeant-major dresses the supernumerary rank from the left.

It is essential that the command *Shoulders Forward* should not be given until the front-rank man on the inward flank of each division shall be clear of the rear-rank man on the outward flank of the company formed before it.

By the front rank of each division halting in a line with the rear rank of those formed, it will have one clear pace to dress up to the alignment.

If the change of front is on the *right* company, *LEFT* thrown forward, division leaders and covering serjeants do not change on the caution: the former because they are already on those flanks of their companies, which will become the inward ones during the march in echelon ; and the latter because they will have to take the required number of paces on the circle, from the 8th files, from the right of their divisions.

In all echelon formations, it is important that the commanding officer, when part of the new line is formed, should accustom the divisions in echelon to *wheel back into*

line during the formation, to ascertain that the divisions have maintained their relative positions, and that they are prepared to shew a front, *at any moment*, if attacked during the movement; thus, with one wing formed in the new line, the other wing by wheeling back, should present another line at an angle (according to the degree of wheel) with it.

S. 32.—*When the Battalion changes Front on a fixed Flank Company, by throwing backward the rest of the Battalion.*

CHANGE FRONT ON THE LEFT COMPANY, RIGHTTHROWN BACK. Division leaders and their covering serjeants change flanks (by the *rear*); the former because the proper left flanks of companies will be inward ones during the march in echelon; their covering serjeants because they will have to take the required number of paces on the circle from the 8th files from the left.

Supernumeraries make a corresponding change.

The direction of the line is determined, as explained in the last section for throwing forward a flank. If it is to be at right angles with the old line, the commander of the battalion will instantly face the line about, and proceed with the formation; if it is to be oblique to the old line, he will first order the covering serjeant of the left company to wheel up, from *behind* the 8th file from the left, into the new line, thereby to ascertain the number of paces required. That having been done, and (for the sake of example) suppose the number to be four, he will order—

RIGHT ABOUT FACE. The line faces about.

**LEFT COMPANY
FOUR PACES,
REMAINING
COMPANIES
TWO PACES, TO
THE RIGHT
WHEEL.** } The proper front rank of the line locks up.

The pivot men face into the direction their divisions will acquire when their respective wheels are completed.

Covering sergeants (except the one of the left company, who remains stationary) place themselves in front (the proper rear) of the 8th files from the right (the proper left) of their divisions, take two paces on the circumference of the circle, and are corrected, if necessary, by the junior major.

QUICK MARCH. As in the last section; except that, if the commander see occasion, companies may be marched up into line in the slow time, so as to be ready, if attacked by the enemy during the formation, to wheel back into line with the utmost regularity.

Left Shoulders Forward. Each division leader in succession will wheel his company into line by this command, but not until the *proper front-rank* man on the inward flank of his division is *CLEAR of the rear-rank man* on the outward flank of the company which preceded his into line.

Each company will then bring shoulders forward, and wheel past its covering serjeant, who had taken up the point of formation (a file giving way for that purpose); and when the *proper front rank* of it is upon a line with the *rear rank* of the company formed before, its leader (who halted on the alignment) will order *Halt, Front*, and without unnecessary pause, *Dress up*. He then will dress his company, order *Eyes Front*, and proceed to his place on the right, by the *rear*.

Supernumeraries make a corresponding change, and are dressed from the left, by the serjeant-major.

If the change of front is on the *RIGHT* company, *left* thrown back, division leaders and covering sergeants will not change upon the caution; the former because they are already on those flanks which will be the inward ones during the march in echelon, and the latter because after

facing about, they will have to take the required number of paces on the circle from the 8th files from the left (*the proper right*).

In these changes of position in echelon, by the throwing back a flank, the flank company on which the change is made may be wheeled backwards into the new line, and the other companies may be wheeled backwards into echelon, and then receive the order to face about; but the other method is preferable, especially if the companies are very strong.

It may be observed that when two or three divisions remain to be formed on the flank, they may complete the formation at the double march, although, as a general rule, it would not be prudent, while marching in echelon, to attempt greater celerity than quick time.

S. 33.—*When the Battalion changes Front on a Central Company, by advancing one Wing and retiring the other.*

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>CHANGE FRONT ON THE CENTRE, RIGHT THROWN FORWARD.</p> | } | <p>Division leaders and covering serjeants of the right wing change flanks by the rear.</p> |
|--|---|---|

Supernumeraries make a corresponding change.

The front-rank centre serjeant between the colours will face into the required direction; and the junior major and adjutant, with the right and left aids, prolong the alignment.

If the change of front is to be oblique to the old line, the covering serjeant of the right centre company, to ascertain the number of paces required for the wheel, will, by order from the commander of the battalion, place himself in front of the 6th file from the inward flank of his division, and wheel up into the new line. The reason of his placing himself in front of the 6th, instead of the 8th file, is because the change is actually made on the front-rank centre serjeant, between the colours; and considering him the left-hand man of the company, the 6th file becomes the 8th. Suppose for example, the number of paces to be four, the order will follow—

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>LEFT WING, RIGHT ABOUT FACE. TWO CENTRE COMPANIES FOUR PACES, REMAINING COMPANIES TWO PACES, INWARDS WHEEL.</p> | <p>The left wing faces about, and with it the regimental colour, and the coverer of it. The rear rank of the right wing, and the proper front rank of the left wing, lock up. Covering serjeants, (except the one of the right centre company, who remains steady,) place themselves in front of the 8th files from the inward flanks of their companies, take the</p> |
|--|--|

ordered number of paces on the circumference of the circle, and halt.

QUICK MARCH. The two centre companies wheel into the new line, on the serjeant between the colours; the one front rank, the other rear rank, in front, and receive respectively, from their leaders, *Halt, (Front, Dress,)* the commands *Halt Dress*, and *Halt, Front, Dress*. When they do so, their covering serjeants give points in front of the 2nd files from the outward flanks of those two companies, each facing towards the centre.

The front-rank centre serjeant at the same time takes a pace to the front, and faces to the left, to mark the point of appui, where the senior major takes post.

Eyes Front. The commanders of the two centre companies, after ordering *Eyes Front*, take their places in the line; he of the right wing passing thither by the *rear*.

While the two centre companies are wheeling, as above explained, into the new line, other companies wheel up until the 8th files from their inward flanks reach their covering serjeants, when they receive from their respective leaders, the commands *Halt Dress, Eyes*

Halt Dress, Eyes Front. *Front* (as before).

Covering serjeants then change to their outward flanks, aligned with the leading ranks.

FORM LINE,
MARCH, or
QUICK MARCH. } As before.

— *Shoulders Forward.* As before; companies of the right wing being conducted as when changing front, by *Halt, (Front, Dress up, Eyes Front,)* throwing forward a flank (SECTION 31); and those of the left wing as when changing front, by throwing backward a flank (SECTION 32).

The serjeant-major dresses the supernumerary rank from the centre.

The change may be made on a single central company, by wheeling it into the new direction on its centre. If the change is at right angles with the old line, the commands (after facing about the wing to be thrown back) will be NO. — WILL WHEEL THE QUARTER-CIRCLE ON THE CENTRE ; REMAINING DIVISIONS, FOUR PACES INWARDS WHEEL. But if the change is oblique to the old line, then the covering serjeant of the named company, in order to ascertain the requisite number of paces, will be directed to wheel up, from before the 8th file, from the inward flank of *the subdivision*, which will wheel forward.

The required number of paces having been ascertained, the formation will then proceed, the other companies (as before) wheeling into echelon only half the number of paces wheeled by the company on which they are to form.

S. 34.—*When from Open Column, the Companies wheel back into Echelon, in order to form Line on the Front Company.*

It has been stated in SECTION 12, page 46, that the most *expeditious* way of forming line on the front company of a column, is by the rear divisions bringing their shoulders forward while on the march, and thus wheeling into echelon; but this may not be attainable without risking confusion, when liable to be attacked during the formation, because the echelon could not wheel *back* and form line. The *safest*, as well as the most *mathematical* mode, therefore, will be, to form the echelon by wheeling the divisions of a column back on *their reverse flanks* as many paces as will make their leading flanks stand perpendicular to the direction in which they are to form.

For that purpose the commander of the battalion will order HALT, and if the front company is to remain in its then position, square to the column, the remaining companies will be wheeled backwards on their reverse flanks four paces, or the eighth of a circle; but if the front company makes the direction oblique, by wheeling back any number of paces, (on its *outward flank*,) then the remaining companies will, *in addition* to the 8th of the circle, wheel one-half the number of paces wheeled by the front company: thus, if the front company wheels back two paces, the others wheel five; if four paces, they wheel six, and so on.

In either case, as soon as the leading company is on the intended alignment, the commander of the battalion will order—

FORM LINE ON
THE FRONT
COMPANY.

The covering and supernumerary serjeants of the leading division instantly give points in front of the 2nd files from the right and left of it, both facing towards the flank of appui.

The aid, with the front company, gives the base point, six paces beyond the right or left of the line (as right or left may be in front); and there the senior major takes post.

The adjutant, with the aid in rear of the column, gives the distant point.

Right (or Left) Division leaders change flanks, and by the *Dress, Eyes, Front.* *front*, because the column is halted, and he of the front company orders *Right (or Left) Dress*; and after dressing his men, *Eyes Front*: he then takes his place in the line.

Covering serjeants (except the one of the leading company, who gives a point as above mentioned in front of the 2nd file from what was the pivot flank in column) change flanks by the *rear*, as their leaders do so by the front.

REMAINING
COMPANIES,
— PACES
ON THE —
BACKWARDS
WHEEL.

This caution signifies that companies will wheel back on their reverse flanks: accordingly, the front-rank man on the reverse flank of each company faces into the direction his division will acquire by wheeling back, and each covering serjeant places himself with his back against the back of the 8th man in the rear rank from the reverse flank of his company, takes the ordered number of paces on the circle, *halts and fronts* with his body in the line of the flank man on whom he wheeled.

QUICK MARCH. Each company wheels back till the man from in rear of whom the serjeant took the number of paces touches his breast. He then gives a low caution to halt, and his leader orders *Halt Dress*, dresses his men, and gives the words *Eyes Front*. *Eyes Front*, on which each covering serjeant moves to the outward flank of his company, and aligns himself with the front rank.

Line is then formed, as explained in SECTION 12, page 44.

2. *If the line is to be formed on the rear company of the column*, that company will stand fast, and the others will FACE ABOUT, and wheel back four paces *on the pivot flanks*, as being those which afterwards first come into line; the formation to which will then be conducted as already explained; each company bringing its outward shoulders forward, when the *proper front-rank* man on its inward flank reaches the outward shoulder of the *rear-rank* man of the company formed before.

3. *If line is to be formed on a central company*, the commanders and covering serjeants of divisions in rear of the named one, change flanks by the *front* and *rear* upon the caution. The company of formation will stand fast, those in *front* of it will be faced about, and then all divisions but that on which the formation is to be made, wheel back the 8th of a circle; those in front of the standing company on their *pivot*, and those in rear of it on their *reverse* flanks.

4. *If the line is to be formed on any company facing to the rear*, the column will countermarch each company by files, (see COMPANY DRILL, Section 13, page 38,) and then proceed as above explained.

Battalions should be practised in forming line by echelon *to either flank*, for cases do occur when a formation to the reverse flank is the only one which the ground and circumstances will sanction. When this inversion takes place, companies will consider their proper situation in line or column to be that which they then occupy, and will be prepared to act accordingly; the senior subalterns in the rear telling off from right to left after every such inversion. It should be a matter of indifference to a well-drilled corps whether the grenadiers are on the right or left of the line.

S. 35.—*When from Line, the Companies of a Battalion march off in Echellon, successively and directly to the Front, and again form in Line, either to the Front or to the Flank.*

A direct echellon is formed for the purpose of advancing or refusing a flank; and so long as it is the intention to form to the front, the companies may march off at any distance whatever, behind each other.

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>ADVANCE IN DIRECT ECHELLON OF COMPANIES, AT WHEELING (or other) DIS- TANCE, FROM THE RIGHT.</p> | <p>Covering serjeants change flanks by the <i>rear</i>, as their places in the direct echellon will be on the outward flanks of their divisions.</p> <p>A supernumerary serjeant of the right company, gives a directing point six paces in front of its outward flank; and the right aid gives a second point 20 paces beyond the first.</p> |
|---|---|

No. 1.—Quick March. The commander of the right company gives the word *Quick March* to his division, and marches so as to brush the inward arms of the points.

The commander of the next company, as soon as the first has marched off, orders *No. 2*, followed, at the proper moment, by the words *Quick March*, so given that his company may step off with their left feet, as the left feet of the preceding division come to the front. Thus the divisions successively taking up the march, will all step with the same feet, and each commander will march on the covering serjeant of the company in his front, except the commander of the left centre company, who must allow for the space the colours would occupy in the line.

The colours follow in rear of the right centre company.

If the advance is from the **LEFT**, commanders at the caution, change flanks by the **REAR**, and their coverers take their places on the right. Divisions are then marched off as before, beginning from the left, and the colours follow in rear of the left centre company.

Line may be re-formed parallel to that from which it moved, by the divisions forming successively upon one of its halted parts, either to the front, rear, or centre. An example is given of forming line on a central company, as that will at the same time shew how the formation would be conducted if on the front or rear division.

FORM LINE ON THE LEFT CENTRE COMPANY. The echelon moves steadily on until the companies in front of the named one **TURN ABOUT**.

The aids, with the junior major and adjutant, proceed to where the outward flanks of the line will rest, ready to take up their points when the company of formation is halted.

RIGHT WING, RIGHT ABOUT TURN. Commanders and covering serjeants of the right wing, as their companies turn about, change flanks with each other by the *rear*, (the proper front,) and the commander of the left

Halt Dress. centre company orders *Halt Dress*, and his covering and senior supernumerary serjeants give points in front of the 2nd files from either flank of their company, each facing towards the other. The senior major takes post there.

Covering serjeants run out when 20 paces from the alignment, and mark where the outward flanks of their divisions will rest.

Halt, Dress up. Companies in rear of one of formation, receive the command *Halt*, when their front ranks are in line with the rear rank of those already formed, and *Dress up* is added without unnecessary pause.

Halt, Front, Dress up. Companies in front of the one of formation, march past their covering serjeants (files giving way for that purpose) and receive the command, *Halt*, when their *proper front* ranks are in line with the rear rank of those already formed, followed by the words *Front, Dress up*.

Commanders, after dressing their divisions, resume their places in the line; those of the right wing passing thither by the *rear*.

The serjeant-major dresses the supernumerary rank from the centre.

If line is formed on the front company, that company is halted and dressed, and the base points are thrown out as soon as the command is given, **FORM LINE ON THE FRONT COMPANY.**

2.—*If the direct echelon is formed for the purpose of throwing forward a flank*, the advance should commence from that flank, and the companies should march off at *wheeling* distance from each other; so that, if line is to be formed to the left by throwing forward the right, the advance must be from the right; and if line is to be formed to the right by throwing forward the left, the advance will be from the left.

THE ECHELLO As soon as the leading company has advanced sufficiently for the purpose, the commander of the battalion will give the caution, supposing the advance commenced from the right, in order to throw that flank forward: **THE ECHELLO WILL WHEEL TO THE LEFT,** followed by the command, **BY COMPANIES, RIGHT SHOULDERS FORWARD;** on which division leaders and covering serjeants turn outwards, and change places with each other by the *rear*, during the wheel.

The colours move to the rear of the left centre company, receiving for that purpose the

commands *Left Turn*, and when at their place, *Front Form*.

FORWARD. Companies wheel the quarter circle, and then receive the word **FORWARD**. The division which marched off last from line, thus becomes, after the wheel, the leading one of the echelon; and line may be formed on it, or on any other division, as already explained.

If from the direct echelon it be required to form an *oblique* line, the directing or outward flank of the leading division will be considered the first point in the intended line, and its precise direction will be established by placing the aid, with the leading company as another point, 20 or 30 paces beyond and before it. The adjutant, with the other flank aid, will prolong the alignment, and upon the caution **TAKE UP YOUR COVERING**, the serjeant coverers will take up the line of covering, at distances from each other equal to the extent of the division which respectively precedes them.

Companies will then be moved by the diagonal march upon their serjeants, the commanding officer ordering those companies in rear of the leading one, **RIGHT (OR LEFT) HALF FACE, QUICK MARCH**; and division leaders on reaching their coverers, will *Halt Dress*.

If the line is taken up more to the flank, so that the diagonal march will not of itself conduct companies to their serjeants, division leaders will, as they find it necessary, order *Right (or Left) Half Turn*, which will bring their divisions in file, and thus they march to their places, receiving the order *Halt, Front, Dress*, as they reach them.

The commanding officer, to form line, will order **BY COMPANIES ON THE RIGHT (OR LEFT) BACKWARDS WHEEL—QUICK MARCH**, and the formation will proceed as explained for wheeling from column into line, except that the wheel is backward instead of forward, and divisions will be dressed from their standing instead of from their wheeling flanks.

If necessary, the companies before wheeling back into line, may be put in march to the front, **HALT**, and wheel back into-line at some more advanced point.

3. If the direct echelon is to form open or quarter-distance column upon any one of its divisions, say, for example, on the left centre company, that company will be halted by its leader; while the others, by order of the commanding officer, wheel inwards by threes.

The covering serjeant of the named company, and of those forming in front of it, take up points for the divisions which in the column will stand in their front; while the covering serjeants of companies forming in rear, will take up points for their own divisions, and upon them they will be led accordingly.

S. 36.—*When a Battalion in Echelon of Companies Halted, or in Motion, is required to form Square.*

COMPANIES, If companies advanced in direct echelon
RIGHT from the right, they will bring left shoulders
(OR LEFT) forward, and if from the left, right shoulders
SHOULDERS forward; when by wheeling one-eighth of
FORWARD— the circle divisions are in column, they will
FORWARD. receive the command **FORWARD.**

FORM SQUARE. Square may then be formed on any company of the column, as already explained.

S. 37.—*When a Battalion marching in Line is to take Ground to a Flank, by the Echelon Movement of Sub-divisions or Sections.*

In thus taking ground to a flank, it must depend upon the strength of the sub-divisions or sections that wheel up, and upon the angle that it is desired to take from the former front, whether the movement ought to be performed by sub-divisions or sections: thus a section of nine files that wheels up two paces, will stand at an angle of about 19 degrees with its former front, while a section of five files that wheels up two paces, will stand at an angle of about 34 degrees. According to the strength, therefore, of the divisions that thus wheel, will be the degree of obliquity taken from the former position. If, therefore, a small degree is to be taken, the line may wheel forward by companies; if a greater, by sub-divisions; and if a greater still, by sections.

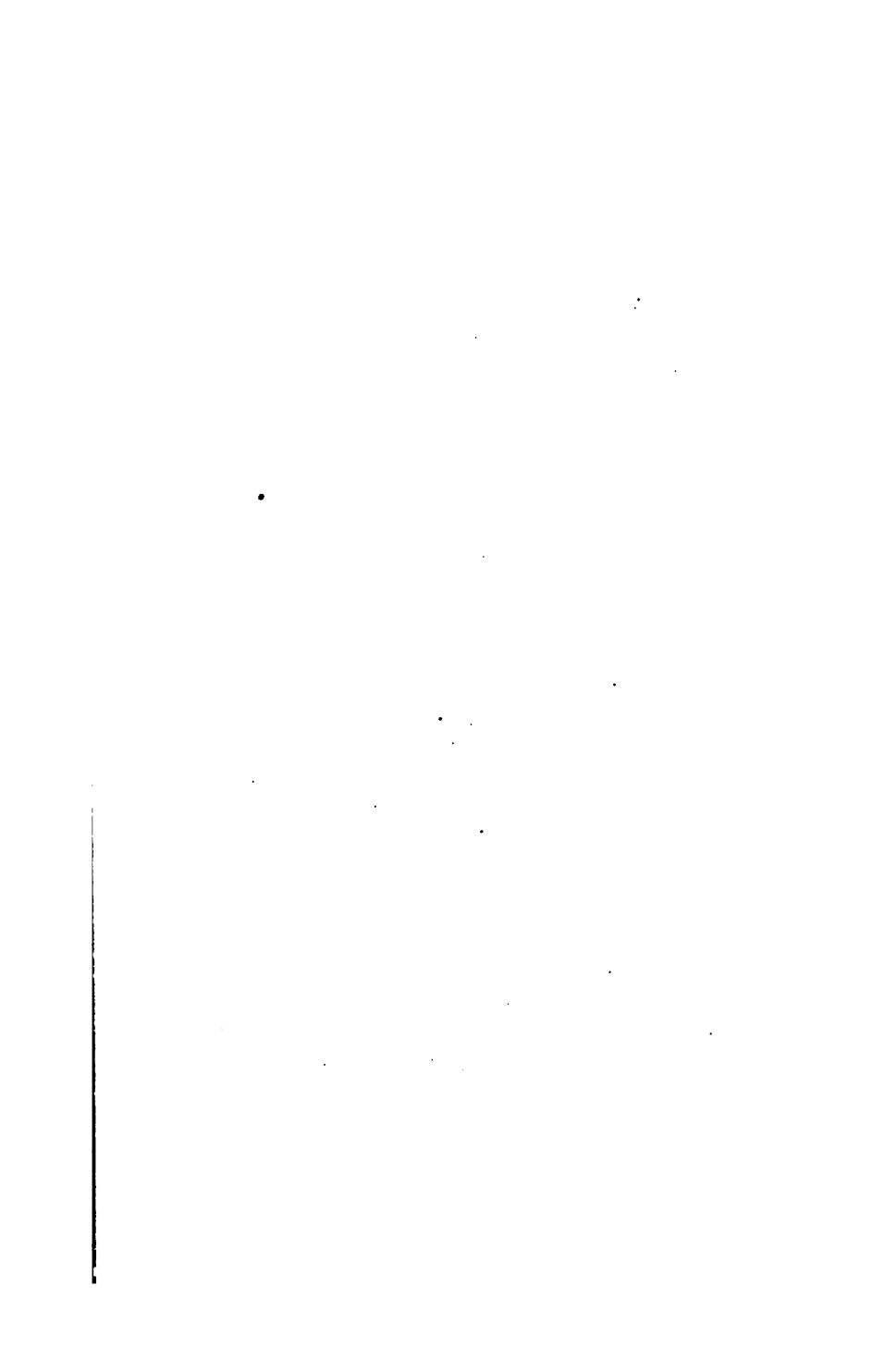
As to the manner of conducting the movement, see SECTION 29; see also COMPANY DRILL, Section 22, page 63.

STREET FIRING.

"If advancing, the two front companies only of the column will fire in succession; the leading company firing and loading kneeling, the 2nd company closing to the front and firing standing. When the enemy's fire has been overcome, or at any favourable moment, the column will charge forward, and make good the ground it is contending for."

"In retiring, the leading division will give its fire, slope arms, face outwards by sub-divisions, file to the rear, re-form company, load, and remain halted, until its front is again clear, or the column is put in motion. The moment the front of the 2nd company is clear, it will give its fire, face outwards by sub-divisions, file to the rear, and proceed as above directed; and so on by companies in succession: and when the whole breadth of the column occupies the whole breadth of the street, the outward files of companies will double in the rear to give the companies which have fired room to pass."

In assisting the Civil Power, troops receive, and on no account must pull without, the word FIRE.



A FEW
NECESSARY RECOLLECTIONS.



A FEW NECESSARY RECOLLECTIONS.

SECTION

1. In taking open order, junior subalterns, if companies have more than two, pass to the front by the right flanks of their divisions.

Covering sergeants take a lengthened side step to the left, to allow officers to pass through; when they have done so, they step up and preserve their commanders' places in the front rank.

2. In taking close order, officers and covering sergeants face to the right; and on the command MARCH, the latter take three side steps of right close, and a pace to rear with the *right* feet. When the officers have passed through, they front up again.

3. In forming open column right in *front*, commanders place themselves in *front* of the centre of their companies, and take one pace to the front. Covering sergeants (except the one with the leading division, who marks where its wheeling flank will rest) take post in *rear* of the centre of their companies. The supernumerary rank locks up.

4. In marching past in slow and quick time, commanders change flanks by the *front* during the second wheel, while their coverers do so by the *rear*. On completion of the wheel, the order "*Forward, by the Right*" is given.

The salute is commenced *ten* paces from the General, as the *left* feet are advanced to the front.

At the third wheeling point commanders and coverers change again, but both by the *rear*. On completion of the wheel, the order is "*Forward, by the Left.*"

The undivided attention of division leaders in column must be given to their covering and distance.

5. On the caution, **LEFT, WHEEL INTO LINE**, division leaders place themselves in front of the centre of their companies, and take one pace to the front. Covering serjeants (except the one of the leading division, who marks where its wheeling flank will rest) align themselves on the right of the front ranks. The rear ranks lock up. The left-hand men of companies in the front ranks face to the left, and raise their right arms. Their coverers uncover.

During the wheel, the commanders incline to and *Halt Dress* their companies from the wheeling flanks.

6. When the ranks are opened for the Manual Exercise, officers, after taking open order, port swords without the word **STEADY**. On the command **TAKE POST OF EXERCISE IN THE REAR**, officers and covering serjeants face to the right; and on the words **QUICK MARCH**, the latter take *one* side step to the right, and a pace to the rear with the right feet, and front up again when the officers have passed through.

Officers after having aligned themselves with the supernumerary rank, remain facing to the rear with recovered swords, until the word **FRONT**. They then face right about and carry swords.

7. If during the march in line, arms are sloped, the advanced serjeants and the one between the colours still keep their fusils at the *Shoulder*.

8. On the caution **PREPARE TO CHARGE**, the men of the front rank bring their arms to the long trail, and those of the rear rank to the slope. The latter mark time one pace. The advanced serjeants mark time and resume their places in the line, as it reaches them.

9. When a single battalion is dressed after a charge, the points face to the left. Commanders do not resume their

places in the line until the word **STEADY** from the commanding officer.

10. If, to avoid obstacles, the line passes by companies to the front from the left, their heads are dressed by, and the distance between them is kept from, the right. If companies pass to the front from the right, then they are regulated by the left. In other words, (whether passing to the front or rear,) they are regulated by that flank which would be the leading one if the column were fronted.

If the column is halted and fronted as soon as it is clear of the wood or other impediment, division leaders will be in their proper places on the pivot flanks; but if column is ordered to be formed to the *reverse* flank, division leaders will turn about, and step back during the formation to where their covering serjeants (who mark the pivot flank) are posted.

If line is re-formed to the front, commanders and covering serjeants, if companies passed from the *right*, merely slip round the leading files (or threes); but if companies passed to the front from the *left*, then commanders turn inwards, and step back to where they will be in the line when the wheel is completed; and their covering serjeants pass thither by the *rear*.

2. If after passing to the rear the column is halted and fronted, division leaders will change to the pivot flanks of their divisions by the *front*, their coverers by the *rear*; but if column is ordered to be formed to the *reverse* flank, commanders and covering serjeants will merely slip round their leading files, (or threes,) and thus take up at once their proper places.

3. If square is to be formed while passing to the front or rear in file, (or threes,) it will be commenced by the wheeling outwards of that centre company which is front rank in front, after the wings have turned inwards, or the leading wing has turned about.

4. If a line is advancing to relieve another, the one to be relieved passes to the rear in file, when the relieving line arrives *within company distance*.

5. If the relieving line is *not on the march*, the line to be relieved retires, and when *within 12 paces*, passes to the rear in file.

11. On the caution to advance or retire by wings, commanders and covering serjeants of the right wing change flanks by the rear. The Queen's colour and front-rank centre serjeant accompany that wing, and the regimental colour and rear-rank centre serjeant accompany the left wing.

12. If the line advances in open column from a flank, the leading division must step at shortened paces of 21 inches, until the rest, having wheeled the quarter circle, receive the command **FORWARD**; then, on the word *Forward* from its own leader, it steps at the usual length of pace.

If the advance is from the right, commanders (except the one of the right company, who changes by the *rear*) change flanks by the *front* during the wheel, and their coverers by the rear.

1. If the advance is by sub-divisions (or sections) from the left, division leaders and covering serjeants wheel into column with what were the pivot sub-divisions (or sections) in line, and change in double time to the leading ones, on the command **FORWARD**. If the advance is in column of sections, only the leading ones of companies receive the word *Shoulders Forward* at the second wheeling point: the others follow, and conform to the wheel without word of command.

2. If line is to be re-formed after the advance, all commanders whose companies are in *rear* of the named one, change flanks upon the caution, by the rear, because the column is in motion; and if the formation is to be on the leading division, its commander also changes in like manner. Covering serjeants of the companies which wheel into echelon, take post on their outward flanks on the command **FORWARD**. They run out to give points when the *inward* flanks of their divisions are 20 paces from the alignment.

3. On the caution to advance in double column of sub-divisions from the centre, commanders and covering serjeants of the right wing place themselves in rear of the right files of their left sub-divisions, and the leader of the left centre company in rear of the left file of his right sub-division. On the command **QUICK MARCH**, other commanders of the left wing change flanks by the front, and their coverers by the rear, during the wheel of their sub-divisions into column. Each sub-division has an officer on its outward flank, and when the sub-divisions of the two wings, after the second wheel, have joined in the centre, the officers of the pivot (or left) sub-divisions will give the command *Forward* to both, as left is the regulating flank of all double columns unless ordered to the contrary.

4. If the double column is to re-form line from the halt, the two centre sub-divisions close outwards four paces each, to allow the colours to move up. If it is on the march, they oblique outwards for the same reason, and receive the command *Halt Dress*, from the leader of the left centre company, when the other sub-divisions, having wheeled into echelon, receive the word **FORWARD**.

5. If the double column is to form line to the right (or left) on the command — **WING**, — **SHOULDERS FORWARD**, commanders of companies in that wing incline to the pivot flanks of their rear sub-divisions, from which they *Halt Dress* their companies. Sub-division leaders of the other wing change at the same time, by the rear, to their inward flanks, and give the word *Shoulders Forward* when parallel with the outward flank of the division last forming before.

13. In retiring from one flank in rear of the other, or from both flanks in rear of the centre, division leaders march on the inward flanks of divisions, until the second wheel is commenced. They then change.

If the retreat is by sub-divisions, the senior subalterns command those which retire first; and when they are

retiring in rear of the centre, the word *Forward* is given to both sub-divisions by the officers of the left wing.

If divisions retire by filing along the rear, each leader halts as he arrives at the inward flank of the division in rear of which the retreat is to be made, and orders *Rear Turn* as the last file reaches him.

14. When a battalion formed in line has marched off in column of divisions to a flank, commanders of companies will remain on their inward (reverse) flanks until ordered to change.

15. In forming square from quarter-distance column, the colours oblique inwards. On the command **SECTIONS OUTWARDS**, all who are to be inside the square, hasten there and take post in rear of that face formed by their divisions.

2. If square is formed from line on the right company, and to the right by first wheeling into column, division leaders do not change flanks. Each of the divisions forming the sides of the square, wheels outwards by sections, on command of its own leader, as it arrives at quarter distance from those already formed. As the last does so, the leaders and supernumeraries of the two rear companies double up and get inside the square, and those companies are halted and faced about as they respectively come up.

3. When the standing ranks of the square are ordered to cease firing, they load and shoulder independently.

When the kneeling ranks load, they spring up and do so as front ranks : cast about, prime, and then shoulder by word of command.

4. On the order to reduce a square and form column, the covering serjeants of the front and rear divisions pass through, and mark where the pivot flanks of their companies will rest. The rear sections of the side faces step back to wheeling distance ; the pivot men on whom they are to wheel back, face to the proper front, and the rear ranks of the front and two rear companies lock up.

5. On the caution to form square on the two centre

sub-divisions, commanders and covering serjeants of the right wing pass by the *rear* to the inward flanks of their companies; the colours, and the commander and covering serjeant of the left centre company, step back four paces. The flank companies and the outward sub-divisions of the two centre companies face inwards: the other companies face right about, and the covering serjeants of the flank companies mark the rear angles of the square.

6. On the order to re-form line, the rear ranks of the sections of the side faces lock up; and on the command **QUICK MARCH**, the rear sections mark time, until they have acquired wheeling distance from the sections in their front.

When in formations to line, any companies are, as in this instance, dressed from the left, commanders return to their places on the right, by the *rear*.

16. On the caution to form square two deep on the two centre companies, commanders of the right wing shift by the *rear*, to the inward and covering serjeants of the left wing, (also by the *rear*,) to the outward flanks of their companies. The colours, and the commander and covering serjeant of the left centre company, step back two paces. All but the two centre companies face right about.

2. When the square is to march by any one of its faces, the colours move up in rear of that face which for the time being is to be considered as the front of the square. The sides faces are wheeled back by sub-divisions, and the rear face takes two paces to the front, and faces right about.

17. In changing front to the rear upon the centre, the two centre companies face outwards, and are both countermarched round their front ranks: they pass each other by the left.

Commanders and covering serjeants of the left wing change flanks by the *rear*.

The divisions of the right wing describe a circle in their countermarch, the depth of a sub-division, to leave room for the divisions of the left wing to pass.

18. In forming open column *in front* of a company, each covering serjeant takes up the distance for his own division, but becomes a point on which the one forming in front of his company will march. He returns to his place by the *reverse* flank of the column. In forming open column *in rear* of any company, covering serjeants give points for their own divisions to march upon. In either case they run out at the usual distance of 20 paces from the *pivot* flank of the column.

19. On the caution, while on the march, to form line to the reverse flank, commanders and covering serjeants change flanks and by the *rear*, because the column is in motion.

20. On the order to change the front of a column by the successive march of divisions from the rear, commanders change flanks by the front, while their covering serjeants do so by the rear. The colours also change.

Companies march out in file, and commanders halt at the third pace. Their covering serjeants on the command *Front Turn*, remain on the outward or proper pivot flanks. Division leaders remain on the inward flanks until clear of the old column. They then change by the *rear*.

The colours do the same.

21. In changing the wings upon a road, commanders, upon the caution **BY DOUBLE FILES FROM THE CENTRE, REAR WING TO THE FRONT**, take post in front, and their covering serjeants in rear of the centre of their companies, ready to wheel outwards with the sections of their reverse sub-divisions, and the commander of the rear company orders *Inwards Face, by Files, from the Centre*.

As commanders successively, on clearing the old column, order *Form Company*, they turn inwards, and step back to the new pivot flank. Covering serjeants drop through the centre, and pass to their places by the rear.

22. In forming close or quarter-distance column from line by the flank march of companies, *all division leaders*

whose companies are on the RIGHT of the named one, change flanks by the front upon the caution, while their covering serjeants do so by the rear; and if the column is to be right in front, (but not otherwise,) the commander and covering serjeant of the division on which it is to be formed, also change.

In forming close or quarter-distance column from line FACING TO THE REAR, *all division leaders whose companies are on the LEFT of the named one, change flanks by the front upon the caution, while their covering serjeants do so by the rear: and the company on which the column is to be formed, is countermarched in file by its own leader, so as to lead to the new pivot flank, to which (if not already there) his covering serjeant changes upon the caution.*

In Close Column.—The divisions are at one pace distance from each other.

Covering serjeants give points for their own companies to march upon, and then cover their commanders.

Supernumeraries are on the reverse flanks of their companies, the officers aligned with the front rank, the non-commissioned officers with the rear rank.

The colours are on the reverse flank of the left centre company, if right is in front, and of the right centre company when left is in front, but *inside* the supernumeraries.

In Quarter-Distance Column.—The divisions are from each other the distance of their flank sections.

Covering serjeants give points for their own companies to march upon when forming in rear of the company of formation; but the covering serjeant of that company, and of those forming in front of it, give points for the companies which, in column, will be in front of their own. They return to their places by the reverse flank of the column.

Supernumeraries and colours are in rear of their companies.

23 and 24. When the column marches in file, or threes, or by the echelon march of sections, to the reverse flank, division leaders and covering serjeants will not change

flanks, unless specially ordered to do so ; but companies will be led by their senior subalterns.

25. In the wheel of a close or quarter-distance column, the rear divisions, if halted, make a half-face, or if on the march, a half-turn to the wheeling flank ; and the leading division performs the wheel at shortened paces proportioned to the depth of the column. If a quarter-distance column is to wheel from the halt, the leading company takes six paces to the front, on the command **QUICK MARCH**, before commencing the wheel.

26. In the countermarch of sub-divisions round the centre, the reverse sub-divisions are those which will be faced about. After wheeling the half-circle, sub-divisions step short, and preserve their relative distances from those in front. The touch is to the inward flank, and if the march is to be continued, the words *Front Turn* are given to the *reverse* sub-divisions, five paces before they arrive in line with the *pivot* sub-divisions.

27. When a close column opens out from the *front*, covering serjeants do not uncover until their companies have been faced about : division leaders then align themselves with the proper rear ranks.

Each company is halted by its own commander, as the required distance is taken up, and to ascertain that he must begin to count the number of paces the moment the words *Halt, Front*, are given to the division immediately halting before him.

When a close column opens out from the *rear*, covering serjeants uncover to the 2nd files upon the caution, and each division respectively, as it takes up the required distance, is halted by the commander of the company in its rear.

After opening out, the word *Dress* is unnecessary, or ought to be so.

28. Deployments are always made on the base of the

front company, but if a column at quarter distance deploys on any other than the front division, the base points must be taken up three paces in front of, instead of close in front of, the leading company.

In deploying to the pivot flank, division leaders and covering serjeants of companies in *front* of the named one, and in deploying to the reverse flank, division leaders and covering serjeants of companies in *rear* of the named one, change flanks upon the caution; the former by the front, the latter by the rear.

29. In wheeling forward by companies to the left into echelon, commanders change flanks by the *rear* upon the caution.

The colours wheel as a division.

At all times after companies have wheeled into echelon, covering serjeants, on the command *Eyes Front*, pass to the outward flanks of their divisions, and align themselves with the front ranks. While marching in echelon, each division leader will dress by, and preserve the distance he MARCHED OFF AT FROM, THE PIVOT FLANK OF THE PRECEDING COMPANY.

30. If companies in a change of position in echelon are wheeled back into line to repel an attack, division leaders do not shift from their inward or leading flanks, unless ordered.

31 and 32. In changing front by the march in echelon, *right thrown forward or back*, all division leaders and covering serjeants change flanks by the *rear* upon the caution.

The divisions forming must be wheeled only half the number of paces wheeled by the company to be formed upon.

Covering serjeants run out to take up the covering and distances for their divisions, when the *inward* flanks of companies are 20 paces from the alignment.

33. In changing front upon a central company by the march in echelon, division leaders and covering serjeants whose companies are upon *the right* of the named one, change flanks by the *rear* upon the caution.

34. In wheeling back into echelon from open column in order to form line, division leaders and covering serjeants whose companies are in *rear* of the named one, change flanks upon the caution; the former by the *front*, the latter by the *rear*; and if the formation is to be on the leading company, the commander of it also changes.

Companies in *front* of the named one are faced about and wheeled back upon their *pivot* flanks; companies in *rear* of the named one are wheeled back upon their *reverse* flanks.

Covering serjeants, after taking the ordered number of paces on the circle from in rear of the 8th files from the inward flanks of their divisions, face about.

35. If companies are to advance in direct echelon from the *left*, commanders change flanks (by the *rear*) upon the caution. If the advance is to be from the right, then covering serjeants change flanks; so that the former are in either case on the inward, and the latter on the outward flanks of their divisions.

If line is to be formed to a flank after an advance, it can only be (without inverting the order of divisions) to the flank opposed to that from which the advance took place.

37. In taking ground to the left, from line, by the march of sections or sub-divisions in echelon, division leaders and covering serjeants do not change flanks.





